

Oman allows expats to bring parents

MUSCAT, Oct. 26, (AP): Oman is introducing a new immigration legislation regulating the entry of foreigners and allowing expatriates to bring their parents to live with them, the Royal Oman Police announced today.

Foreign workers who earn a minimum monthly wage of 200 riyals (\$316) and have worked in the sultanate for at least a year, will be permitted as from next month to bring one or both parents to live in Oman on condition the parent does not seek employment, according to Chief Immigration Officer Col. Abdullah Al Hamadi.

Previously parents of expatriate employees were allowed to visit for a maximum period of three months.

Thousands of Indian and Pakistani workers were expected to take advantage of the new law to bring relatives from the subcontinent, but the 800-strong US community in Oman is unlikely to expand quickly, US diplomatic sources said.

Strewn with banknotes

MADRID, Oct. 26, (Reuters): A motorist scattered banknotes along a three-km (two-mile) stretch of urban motorway in Madrid before vanishing in the traffic jam he caused, police said today.

Witnesses said many drivers stopped to pick up the 1,000 and 5,000 peseta notes (worth \$8 and 40), some of them leaving cars to run across the motorway.

Police declined to estimate how much money the motorist threw out of his car in the incident yesterday, but some media reports said it could be up to one million pesetas (\$8,000).

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كشافة الكويت

جنوب لبنان اسرائيلي
نضالي على

تركي شمس سوري سفير تار

كافل

باكستان میں انتخابی حلقوں کی تفصیل

سری لنكاس عام انتخابات کا مکان

کویت میں گھر گھر ڈاک کی ترسیل کا ہاتھ

ادمان میں تاریکین وطن کیلئے ناقانون

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Palestinian bases blasted as SLA pushes towards Sidon

Israel launches massive air raids on Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Israeli jets blasted Palestinian bases in Lebanon today as Israel's local militia allies launched a ground offensive towards Muslim and Palestinian lines in the port of Sidon.

Air strikes killed 15 people and wounded 40 in bases near Miyeh Miyeh refugee camp, a Palestinian official said, while one commando was reported wounded in other raids on areas close to Beirut.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli Army spokesman said all Israeli jets returned safely from the raids, in which he said "terrorist" targets were destroyed.

Artillery

About 200 militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanese Army (SLA), supported by armoured vehicles, launched a two-prong offensive from their stronghold of Jezzine, security sources in the town 20 km (12 miles) east of Sidon said.

They said the SLA exchanged heavy artillery fire with Palestinian commandos and the Sunni Muslim Popular Liberation Army (PLA), dug in around the southern port of Sidon.

The SLA seized hilltops overlooking Sidon, Miyeh Miyeh and another Palestinian refugee camp at Ain Al Hilweh, the sources said.

They said the SLA withdrew



An old Palestinian fighter searches the ruins of a building, destroyed during an Israeli air raid, for his belongings. (Reuters wirephoto)

more than four hours later to Kfarfous but kept its grip on one of the strategic hills as artillery exchanges continued.

They said two SLA men were injured in the fighting. Residents in Sidon said shells

hit the town, forcing people off the streets.

The sources said four PLA militiamen were killed and three injured ones captured by the SLA, who they said planned the offensive with Israeli officers.

The offensive by the SLA, mainly based in Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon, was its deepest in three years.

Witnesses said the bases at Miyeh Miyeh, one of the last remaining strongholds of the Fatah group led by PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, were reduced to blood-stained rubble by the Israeli jets.

Mahmoud Al Hassan, a Fatah official, said the dead at Miyeh Miyeh included a family of seven and four commandos.

Strikes

The second air raid targeted bases of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) in the areas of Damour, Naameh and Aramoun just south of Beirut.

Security sources said one DFLP commando was wounded.

At the United Nations, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar deplored the air strikes and called for a halt to such attacks.

His statement, issued through a spokesman, said: "The secretary-general has learned with concern that the Israeli Air Force today conducted other raids against targets in Lebanon."

"He strongly deplores the repeated violation of Lebanon's territorial integrity and calls for an end to these attacks," it concluded.

The Israeli air raids and the SLA offensive, launched less than a week before elections in Israel, followed stepped up guerrilla activity in the security zone along the Israeli/Lebanese border.

The Israeli spokesman declined to say if the air raids were meant as reprisals, but Lebanese security sources said they were probably in retaliation for an attempt by seven Fatah commandos to infiltrate into northern Israel on Monday.

In Baghdad, a senior aide to Arafat said the PLO had been expecting an Israeli ground attack into southern Lebanon.

"Israel has mobilised its forces within and outside the security zone to launch a wide-scale ground attack," Bassam Abu Sharif told reporters.

He said the Israeli action was timed to influence the election on Nov 1.

Emergency GCC meeting to discuss Lebanese crisis

ABU DHABI, Oct. 26, (Agencies): Foreign ministers of the GCC states will hold emergency talks in Riyadh on Tuesday to discuss ways to resolve the political crisis in Lebanon the Emirates news agency said today.

The news agency said the ministers will assess efforts currently underway to "save Lebanon from its dilemma."

UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan last week called for an urgent Arab summit to try to prevent a formal partition of the Middle East nation torn by 13 years of sectarian violence.

Recognition

Lebanon has remained without a president since former President Amin Gemayel's term expired last month, and two cabinets — one Christian and the other Muslim — are competing for foreign recognition as the legitimate government.

Sheikh Zayed renewed his call for an emergency meeting last night during talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara, who arrived in Abu Dhabi on a surprise visit.

"It is the Arab deteriorating situation that has prompted me to call for an urgent Arab summit," he added.

PLO urged to accept UN Resolution 242

CAIRO, Oct. 26, (Agencies): Jordan's King Hussein advised the PLO to accept the UN Security Council's Resolution 242, which sanctions Israel's right to survival, as the basis of negotiating the boundaries of the projected Palestinian state, a news magazine reported today.

The magazine Al Mussawar, which has close government connections, said Hussein provided the advice to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat at the Jordanian port of Aqaba that also included President Hosni Mubarak.

The magazine's editor Makram Mohammed Ahmed, who was at Aqaba for the summit, wrote that Hussein argued that the PLO's attempt to revive a 1947 UN plan dividing the British-mandated territory of Palestine in two Arab and Jewish states was not adequate.

The magazine did not explain

mit, especially after Lebanon has reached complete paralysis in all aspects of life, the official agency quoted Sheikh Zayed as saying.

The report said Sheikh Zayed told the Syrian envoy Arabs will "blame their leaders ... for the present divisions."

Al Shara, who also visited Kuwait, later arrived in Muscat to meet Sultan Qaboos.

The GCC foreign ministers also were expected to discuss the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, current efforts to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East and Gulf developments.

Favour

Kuwait is in favour of any Arab move trying to restore solidarity and end Arab differences, Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said today.

He said that Kuwait has not yet received official invitation to take part in any summit. But he indicated that Kuwait has been invited to attend a Sudanese-requested Arab foreign ministers meeting to discuss the Lebanese crisis.

"We have agreed to take part in this meeting once consensus has been achieved," he added.

148 people found alive

Hundreds still missing from capsized Filipino ship

MANILA, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Rescuers searching for 300 people still missing since a typhoon-battered Philippine ship sank on Monday redoubled their efforts after finding 148 others cheated death by floating in the waves for hours or swimming to a chain of islands.

At least 27 of around 500 people on board Dona Marilyn drowned when typhoon Ruby ripped across the Philippines on Monday and yesterday, killing about 100 others in flash floods and leaving 100,000 homeless, officials said.

"I was just floating," Alberto Oleand told reporters, recounting how he survived. He lost his wife and two sons aged three years and 18 months.

"I got very tired and she let go. The waves got stronger and Louie, the elder one, slipped from my hand. I think 10 hours later, I lost my other son."

Oleand said they were in a

group of 30 swept overboard when giant waves slammed into the 22-year-old ship and turned it over in winds of up to 185 kph (115 mph).

Oleand, 29, was among scores of survivors found by rescue teams on three small central Philippine islands two days after the Dona Marilyn went down in waters 100 fathoms deep.

A reporter who flew over the string of craggy, palm-fringed Philippine islands in a helicopter reported that fishermen in small wooden canoes joined the hunt today and victims were pulled to safety by rescue teams.

In Manila, President Corason Aquino placed Manila and five regions comprising about half of the country's 73 provinces under a state of calamity. She also ordered an immediate investigation into the sinking of the Dona Marilyn.

The declaration gave the government emergency powers to commandeer transport, fix food prices and the cost of building materials to rebuild ravaged areas.

The owners of the ship, Sulphur Lines, which stated yesterday there were 511 passengers and crew aboard, said today there were 481.

Sulphur officials said they hoped many more missing people would be found alive, possibly stranded on other islands dotting the central Philippine Sea where the sinking occurred.

Coast Guard area commander Captain Samuel Cortez said the Dona Marilyn sank two hours after sending out a distress signal.

He said it was likely most passengers were able to prepare and put on life jackets. It was also possible some, including the elderly and children, might have been trapped and gone down with the ship.

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Six get life terms for Delhi riots

NEW DELHI, Oct. 26, (AP): A judge sentenced six Hindus to life imprisonment for killing Sikhs during riots that erupted in Nov 1984 after Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassination, news reports said today.

At least 3,000 people, mostly Sikhs, died in the riots in the capital and other parts of northern India. Mrs Gandhi's assassination by her Sikh bodyguards spurred a backlash against Sikhs by members of India's Hindu majority.

The sentences handed down yesterday were the first in connection with the riots, which raged for three days after Mrs Gandhi's slaying on Oct. 31, 1984, according to the Hindustan Times, a New Delhi-based daily that is generally pro-government.

United News of India said four also were sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment, including two years each of rigorous imprisonment, and fined Rs 2,000 (\$135), for destroying property. The sentences are to run concurrently.

Soviets to free all political prisoners

MOSCOW, Oct. 26, (AP): Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany said today the Soviets have agreed to release all people regarded in the West as political prisoners within the next 10 weeks.

Such a move would be one of the most dramatic signs yet from

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev that he seeks a definitive break with past Soviet human rights practices, which have included the confinement of people who disagree publicly with Kremlin policy.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov

refused to confirm or deny that a release of political prisoners was in the offing.

Gerasimov said the number of political prisoners in the country was about two dozen. However, political rights groups say there are about 200 political prisoners in the Soviet Union.

way dividing Iran and Iraq in February 1986 and occupied the battered town and part of the Faw peninsula at the head of the Gulf.

Surprise
In April, just four months before a UN-ordered ceasefire silenced the guns, the elite Iraqi Presidential Guards spearheaded a surprise assault on Faw and wrested it from Iran.

Iraq has hailed Faw, the first town torn from Iranian control, as a symbol of its victories and sacrifices.

Iraqi television has shown hundreds of people in Baghdad and the city of Mosul, 350 km (210 miles) to the north, handing in cash for Faw, which was of

great strategic importance before the war.

Two giant supertanker offshore terminals were built during the oil boom of the 1970s about 20 km (12 miles) south of Faw town, surrounded by sand and mudflats on Iraq's Gulf coast.

Meanwhile Iraq said today Iran was behaving like a carpet trader by offering to swap plane-loads of wounded prisoners of war (POWs).

"Iranian officials are treating human beings as if they are carpets or commercial commodities when they talk about the exchange of a plane full of wounded Iraqi prisoners of war for every plane-load of wounded Iranian prisoners repatriated by

Security sources identified the kidnap victim as Said Abul-Husan of the Iraqi-based Mujahadeen-e-Khalq and said he had been found bound and gagged in the boot of an Iranian embassy car on the road to Turkey's border with Iran.

Officials in eastern Turkey said police had detained three Iranians they said were involved in the kidnapping and sent them to Istanbul's state security court for questioning.

In Baghdad, a spokesman for the Mujahadeen, the largest Iranian opposition group, said the victim's name was Abul-Hasan Mojtahedzadeh.

Turkey's right-wing Terkuman newspaper said four diplomats, two of them based in Ankara, and three Iranian bodyguards had been held for a time after the kidnap plot was discovered.

The newspaper said the seven Iranians, including two diplomats accredited to Tehran's embassy in Ankara, were in two embassy Mercedes cars when a petrol pump attendant in eastern Turkey noticed something unusual and called the police.

Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu said the incident was a kidnap attempt but would give no further details on the grounds that an investigation was under way.

"In similar incidents, the procedure would be to declare them persona non grata and ask them to leave the country," he said.

Mujahadeen-e-Khalq leader Masoud Rajavi said in a telex to news media on Oct 20 that Mojtahedzadeh, "an Iranian student supporter of the Iranian resistance in Turkey," disappeared in central Istanbul on Oct 11.

During the two-day meeting, delegates will discuss a unified plan for a GCC mobile telephone network, emphasising the type, size and number of instruments to be used in the region. They will also study "technical difficulties" experienced by subscribers.

They reviewed a proposal to provide door-to-door mail service in residential areas in Kuwait.

At present mail is delivered to post office boxes.

The ministry is also studying a proposal to establish post office boxes near co-operative societies to ease collection of mail.

Unify
The ministry is planning to build post offices in suburbs which do not have such services. Meanwhile, a long-term plan to unify the mobile telephone network in the Gulf is to be discussed at a meeting next month. The Ministry of Commu-

nica-

tion will host the GCC's technical committee meeting, at the Meridien Hotel on Nov 5 and 6.

Communications experts from all the Gulf countries in addition to representatives of companies dealing in mobile telephone equipment will attend the meeting.

Kuwait recently introduced a working paper on unifying the mobile network in the GCC. It was presented by Kuwait in March at the fourth GCC communications ministers' meeting in Abu Dhabi. A technical committee was formed to study the matter.

Saudi diplomat shot dead in Ankara

ANKARA, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Police today hunted for the killer of a Saudi Arabian diplomat in Ankara as Turkish authorities questioned three Iranians suspected of kidnapping an Iranian dissident in a separate incident.

Second Secretary Abdulghani Beddawi was shot in the head and chest by an unidentified gunman outside his Ankara home last night in an attack diplomats said bore the hallmarks of a professional gunman.

Running
A night watchman at Beddawi's Ankara apartment building said he saw a tall man with black curly hair running away after the attack on the Saudi diplomat.

As police hunted for the killer, the Turkish Foreign Ministry and Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Turkey disagreed on possible motives for the shooting.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Batu said: "So far our ministry does not appear to be involved because it appears to be a criminal incident."

Saudi Ambassador Abdulaziz Khoja — at whose embassy security was stepped up after Iranian threats against the kingdom during this year's Muslim pilgrimage — said he was "100 per cent sure the killing was not a personal matter."

"It is all very ambiguous... we do not know who the attackers are. It was not theft, his wallet was found on his body," he said. "During the hajj (pilgrimage) time we received some warnings," he said, without saying where they came from.

Turkey's semi-official Anatolian news agency, meanwhile, said a plot to smuggle an Iranian dissident to Iran was foiled yesterday.

Lone passenger

LONDON, Oct. 26, (UPI): A British Airways jumbo jet left Tokyo for London yesterday with only one passenger aboard, but an embarrassed BA spokesman still insisted, "it's a very busy route."

Flight BA008 began its 11-hour journey with only one passenger because delays resulted in all the others being re-routed.

Kuwaitis donate \$1.5m to rebuild Faw

BAGHDAD, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Kuwaitis have donated more than \$1.5 million to rebuild the small southern Iraqi town of Faw, shattered in the eight-year war with Iran, an Iraqi newspaper said today.

The ruling Arab Baath Party daily Al Thawra said Kuwaitis had given KD385,000 (\$1.54 million) to rebuild the town, 90 km (50 miles) southeast of the port city of Basra.

Iraq last month launched an international drive for money to rebuild Faw, regarded by Baghdad as a national symbol of victory over the Iranian forces which held it for two years.

Iranian troops stormed the disputed Shatt Al Arab water-

way dividing Iran and Iraq in February 1986 and occupied the battered town and part of the Faw peninsula at the head of the Gulf.

Surprise
In April, just four months before a UN-ordered ceasefire silenced the guns, the elite Iraqi Presidential Guards spearheaded a surprise assault on Faw and wrested it from Iran.

Iraq has hailed Faw, the first town torn from Iranian control, as a symbol of its victories and sacrifices.

Iraqi television has shown hundreds of people in Baghdad and the city of Mosul, 350 km (210 miles) to the north, handing in cash for Faw, which was of

great strategic importance before the war.

Two giant supertanker offshore terminals were built during the oil boom of the 1970s about 20 km (12 miles) south of Faw town, surrounded by sand and mudflats on Iraq's Gulf coast.

Meanwhile Iraq said today Iran was behaving like a carpet trader by offering to swap plane-loads of wounded prisoners of war (POWs).

"Iranian officials are treating human beings as if they are carpets or commercial commodities when they talk about the exchange of a plane full of wounded Iraqi prisoners of war for every plane-load of wounded Iranian prisoners repatriated by

Iraq," Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Nizar Hamdoun said.

An Iranian source said yesterday Iran had told the United Nations of its swap offer in response to a recent statement by Iraq that it was

Australian writer wins Booker prize

LONDON, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Australian writer Peter Carey won Britain's top literary prize yesterday with a love story set in 19th century England and Australia about a puritanical priest and a young heiress drawn together by their gambling addictions.

"Oscar and Lucinda" — which mocks both religious and social narrow-mindedness — was a favourite among six novels shortlisted to win the £15,000 (\$26,250) Booker prize.

Carey, who lives in Sydney, received the award in person from judges' chairman Michael Foot, former leader of the opposition Labour Party, at a televised dinner at London's Guildhall.

Foot, himself a writer and historian, said all the judges agreed the six shortlisted books this year were exceptional.

They included Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses," banned in India and Pakistan after Muslim complaints that it was offensive to Islam. Bombay-born Rushdie won the Booker prize before for "Midnight's Children."

Other titles shortlisted were "The Beginning of Spring" by previous Booker winner Penelope Fitzgerald, Marina Warner's "The Lost Father," David Lodge's "Nice Work" and Bruce Chatwin's "UTZ."

The main characters of "Oscar and Lucinda" are both idealists, believers and puritans. The 500-page book covers enormous ground — from the English west country to Chinese gambling dens in New South Wales.

"I have never read a better account in fiction of the mixture of misery, audacity and discipline which attended the founding of Australia," Peter Porter wrote of the book recently in Britain's Daily Telegraph.

The Sunday Times described it as "a cornucopia of a novel, spilling over with vitality and poetry, comedy and pathos: a richly creative celebration of life's wayward energies and inexhaustible diversities."

Dukakis criticises Bush and Thatcher

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Underdog Michael Dukakis took his uphill struggle for the American presidency to the mid-airwaves, insisting 13 days to the election was enough time to overcome George Bush.

In a 90-minute nighttime interview on ABC-TV, the Democratic candidate continued to fire away at Bush. He also criticised British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Even though Dukakis lags far behind the Republican Vice-President in opinion polls on the Nov 8 election, he said: "I think there's still a long way to go in this kind of campaign — 13 days is still a very long time."

Rallies Dukakis fielded an array of foreign policy and domestic questions on ABC's "nightline" but broke little new ground.

A news CBS New York Times poll showed Dukakis slipping further behind Bush by 54 to 41 per cent among probable voters. The same group two weeks ago had Bush ahead 50 to 45 per cent.

The programme lacked the biting rhetoric Dukakis has used in his public rallies recently to answer Bush's stinging charges.

But Dukakis managed a few jabs, such as: "The Bush campaign is running a campaign that is loaded with distortions, and misrepresentations and falsehoods."

Dukakis, whom Bush has hit for lacking foreign policy or defence experience, ventured into criticism of Thatcher for her ban on British broadcasters giving air time to groups accused of supporting violence, including the Irish Republican Army.

"I was concerned and frankly disappointed," Dukakis said. "I thought that was an unfortunate decision."

He was also asked about another Thatcher regulation that would allow courts in Northern Ireland to interpret refusal by defendants to speak as evidence against them.

Dukakis said he was not familiar with the ruling but added: "It is certainly not consistent with due process we have in this country."

In the interview, much of it on foreign policy, Dukakis said he agreed with the proposal for a multi-national conference on the Middle East "so long as it leads to direct negotiations between Israel and her neighbours."

Programme moderator Ted Koppel noted that King Hussein of Jordan had said recently that

"it would be a disaster" if Israeli Labour Party leader Shimon Peres lost his election fight against Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Peres has made a proposal for an international conference as a keystone in his election campaign and when Dukakis was asked if he agreed with King Hussein, he said: "I don't think so necessarily."

Dukakis said he did not want to get involved in the Israeli election but added that Shamir had said that "everything is on the table."

Late The Democratic candidate said President Reagan's administration had done little in eight years to achieve a peace in the Middle East and Secretary of State George Shultz's proposal for negotiations had come too late.

Dukakis added he would name a special Middle East envoy who would report to him and his secretary of state to bring about direct negotiations between Israel and its neighbours.

In response to a question about breaking off relations with Syria over any alleged terrorist activities, Dukakis again would not commit himself.

Soviets raise hopes for whales' freedom

BARROW, Alaska, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Soviet icebreakers smashed through Arctic ice that has trapped two whales, raising hopes today that the huge mammals could soon be freed.

The crew of the 440-foot (134-metre) icebreaker Admiral Makarov and the Vladimir Arseniev, a 496-foot (151-metre) cargo ship, began work after arriving near this Eskimo village yesterday.

Chance The ships, on the scene at the request of the United States, were briefed on a rescue plan drafted by US scientists before attacking a huge barrier of ice standing between the whales and the unfrozen seas.

"There wasn't a chance for a lot of niceties, literally. The captain was all work," said Ron Morris, a National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) scientist who helped brief the Soviet crew on one of their ships.

The ships went into action so quickly that one scientist was chased off the ice pack by their approach.

Morris predicted that the whales, which should normally have been migrating to warmer waters off Mexico, would be able to swim out to unfrozen seas this afternoon.

Strong He said it had not yet been decided whether the pair would be tagged with tracking devices.

The whales, named Crossbeak and Bonnet by scientists, were discovered trapped beneath the ice on Oct. 7. A third whale disappeared over the weekend and was presumed dead. The surviving

whales were said to be in good condition.

Morris said scientists had found a 20-foot-deep (six-metre) channel with a strong current flowing under the ice near the whales.

The Americans planned to cut through the ice along the channel with a unique, 11-tonne ice-breaking machine until they reached the inlet created by the Soviet ships.

Morris said the Americans gave satellite photo information and other data needed to carry out the mission to the Soviet crew and would continue to deliver updated information.

The Soviet ships, he said, would push as close as possible to the whales, which were still three or four miles from the so-called "pressure ridge" of ice.

French police chiefs cast doubt on Kennedy TV documentary

MARSEILLE, France, Oct. 26, (Agencies): Senior French police officers today cast doubt on a British television documentary that said President Kennedy was assassinated by Marseille gangsters hired by the US Mafia to protect their drug interests.

Superintendent Bernard Gravel, head of France's anti-drugs squad, told French television he found it hard to believe that petty gangsters recruited in the rough Mediterranean port would have been capable of carrying out such a crime.

"How can one believe that these 20-year-old youths, with Marseille accents you could cut with a knife and certainly not speaking Oxford English or Texan American, were up to operating under cover, disguised as American policemen, without taking risks?" Gravel said in a television interview.

Protect "The men who killed Kennedy," a two-hour programme from the Central Television Company, alleges Kennedy was killed not by former marine Lee Harvey Oswald but by a three-man hit squad hired to protect the notorious "French Connection" Mafia drug ring.

A Corsican accused in the documentary of being one of the three hitmen denied today any involvement in the shooting.

"On Nov 22, 1963, I was doing military service in (the French port of) Toulon — not in Dallas," Martin Sauveur Pironi said in an interview with the Marseille newspaper Le Provençal.

A French Navy spokesman confirmed today that Pironi was serving in a minesweeping unit at Toulon at the time of the attack.

Pironi also told Le Provençal that he believed the other two men named also had alibis for the 1963 slaying.

Documents "I believe that at the time my friend Lucien Sarti was held at the Baumettes (prison) and that Roger Bocognani was in prison at Fort du Ha at Bordeaux," Pironi said.

Sarti is dead and Bocognani is on the run from police who want to arrest him for other crimes.



Pironi shows his military record at the French newspaper Le Provençal in Marseille. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pironi showed reporters official military documents according to which he served on a French minesweeper at Toulon from Oct. 16, 1962, to April 16, 1964.

The programme, widely publicised in France before its British screening, claims one of the hitmen disguised himself as a policeman and fired on Kennedy's open-topped limousine as it was driving through Dallas in 1963.

The film says the assassination was an attempt by US organised crime to stop a crackdown ordered by Kennedy and carried out by his brother, then Attorney-General Robert Kennedy, assassinated by a Palestinian in

1968.

Honore Gevaudan, a former police chief who helped break the French Connection in the 1970's, cast doubt on the drug link, saying the heroin ring had not been set up at the time of Kennedy's assassination.

"The American President could not have been trying to dismantle the French Connection since he was assassinated in 1963 and American authorities only started to bother about rampant drug addiction in 1967-8," he told French radio.

He added: "The French Connection did not exist as such in 1963 ... it seems to me we're drifting into the realms of pure fantasy."

Thatcher intends to seek a fourth term in office

LONDON, Oct. 26, (UPI): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said in an interview published today that she intends to lead the Conservative Party into the next election and seek a fourth term in office.

The intention of Britain's first woman prime minister to seek re-election in vote that must be held by 1992 was revealed in an interview with the Times. It would diminish the chances of most of the senior figures in her cabinet and party of succeeding her in the elections of 1994.

Thatcher is the first prime minister to win a third term since the 19th century. In the national election held June 11, 1987, her Conservative Party scored its second largest parliamentary majority since World War II.

Asked if she intends to lead the

Conservatives into the next election, Thatcher said, "I would wish to do that. It doesn't depend wholly on me of course."

She told the newspaper her chief concern is that the things she believes in are carried on "fully and forthrightly into the future."

"Some time there will along a person who can do it better than I can," she added. "And I'm always on the lookout. But I expect myself to do it for the fourth term. I hope to do it for the fourth term and I hope we will be return for a fourth term."

Thatcher has changed the course of the British government and rekindled her country's international prestige during her tenure as Britain's longest continuously serving prime minister this century.

In foreign affairs, the strong-willed Conservative Party chief led Britain to victory over Argentina in the 1982 Falklands war. And she fought for the deployment of US missiles in Europe, a move that paved the way for a possible US-Soviet arms reduction agreement.

On the domestic front, her government has carried out a sweeping denationalisation of industry and services, curbed the power of life-wing labour unions and used prudent public spending to tame inflation.

Struck She was first elected to Downing Street during the 1979 "winter of discontent," when under a Labour Party government, unions unleashed a wave of strikes that left garbage uncollected and the dead unbear.

BBC world service to get new look

LONDON, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Twenty-five million listeners around the world will hear a friendlier, less solemn BBC when they tune in from Saturday to its English-language world service.

The British Broadcasting Corporation's world service managing director, John Tusa, announced sweeping changes today aimed at bringing style and content up to date.

"Very often people thought we were perhaps verging on the pompous," Tusa told a news conference. "You can't have a network sounding as if it were 40

years out of date."

The world service new look is aimed at fighting competition from other international networks like Voice of America and Deutsche Welle.

It will include new programmes for young people and on politics, music and the media.

A flagship news programme called Newshour, starting on Saturday, will spearhead current affairs coverage, including a news bulletin, correspondents' reports, British news, a press review and sports coverage.

Opposition won't have access to TV, radio

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Pakistani opposition politicians will remain barred from national television and radio in their campaign for next month's elections, a government spokesman said today.

Presidential media adviser Z.A. Suleri told a news conference he had advised the government to grant opposition parties access to television and radio, which are state-run.

"But the government had decided otherwise for its own reasons," he said without elaborating.

Broadcasting networks have not covered opposition activities since the late military ruler Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq came to power 11 years ago.

But many politicians and commentators had hoped the ban would be lifted after Zia's death in a plane crash in August.

PLO urged to accept UN ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Resolution 242 calls for Israel's withdrawal from Arab lands captured in the 1967 war and provides for the right of all states of the region to live within secure and recognised boundaries.

"The proclamation of a Palestinian state on the basis of the partition resolution that provided for two Palestinian and Jewish states has Jordan's blessing," the magazine said.

Correct Jordan believes that basing the legitimacy of the Palestinian state on the partition resolution is a correct step on the part of the Palestinians, if they are planning to accept Resolution 242 as the basis of negotiating the conditions of the establishment of this state," the magazine said.

"In more clear words, Jordan believes that the ideal formula is that the Palestinian state will gain international legitimacy from the partition resolution and its new borders from agreeing to negotiate on the basis of Resolution 242," the magazine said.

The magazine did not say how Arafat reacted to the Jordanian advice. Arafat had refused in the past to accept Resolution 242 by itself because it deals with the Palestinian question as a refugee problem and not the problem of a people seeking a statehood.

Mubarak yesterday said if the Palestinians were to declare an independent state, they would have to clearly define its borders so as to avert Israeli fears of insecurity.

Wants But French President Mitterrand said he wants to know more about the subject before making any comment.

Mitterrand arrived earlier in the day for a few hours of talks with Mubarak, mainly on Middle East peace problems.

The two leaders spoke to reporters just before Mitterrand's departure in the afternoon. The state-run Middle East News Agency carried their comments.

Kuwaitis donate \$1.5m to rebuild Faw

(Continued from Page 1)

Earlier today, an Iraqi-government newspaper said Baghdad would not retreat from its stand that priority in next week's peace talks with Iran should be given to clearing the war-debris strewn Shatt Al Arab waterway.

"Iraq will not retreat from these rights ... this is something the Iranians and others must understand," Al-Jumhuriya said.

Iran, meanwhile, reiterated that a 13-year-old accord torn up by Iraq at the start of the Gulf war is the only basis for solving border disputes between the two nations, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

The agency said Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi spelled out Iran's commitment to the 1975 Algiers Accord during a banquet in Tehran last night, in honour of visiting Hungarian Prime Minister Karoly Grosz.

Accord "Only the 1975 accord provides a basis for solving the border disputes between Iran and Iraq," IRNA quoted him as saying.

The 15 UN Security Council members unanimously adopted a statement of concern over the pace of the latest round of talks in New York in late September and early October.

Bomb blast in Pakistan kills one

LAHORE, Pakistan, Oct. 26, (Reuters): A bomb killed one person and wounded 14 in a busy market in the Pakistani border town of Lahore today, police said.

They said the bomb exploded under the seat of a traditional horse-driven carriage in the centre of Lahore, capital of Punjab province bordering India.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

The Lahore attack follows two similar blasts in the Pakistani capital Islamabad this week injuring 12 people.

Arabs want UN meeting on uprising UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 26, (Reuters): The Arab group, in a letter published today, requested a special meeting of the General Assembly on the uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The one-paragraph letter, addressed to assembly President Dante Caputo of Argentina, was signed by South Yemen UN Ambassador Abdallah Al Ashtal, the Arab group's chairman for October.

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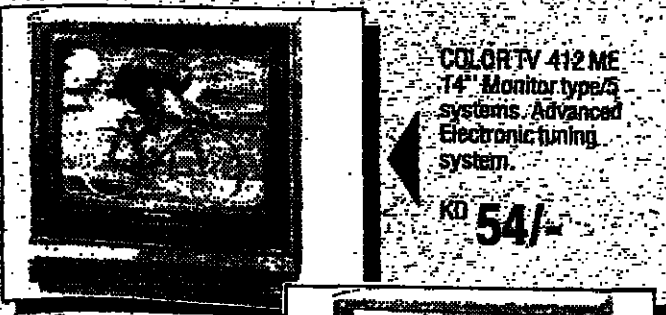
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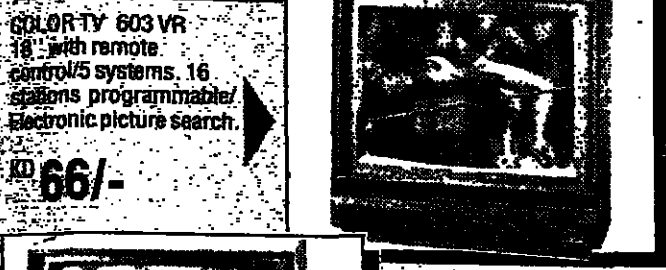
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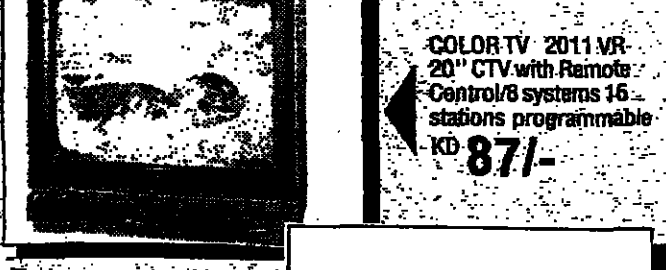
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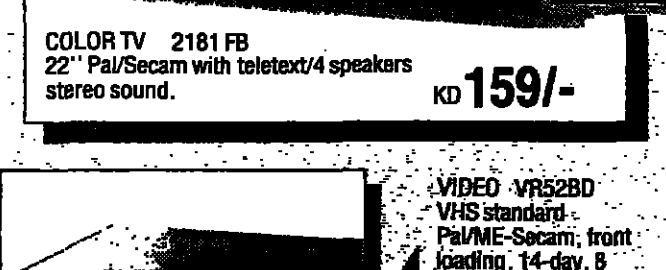
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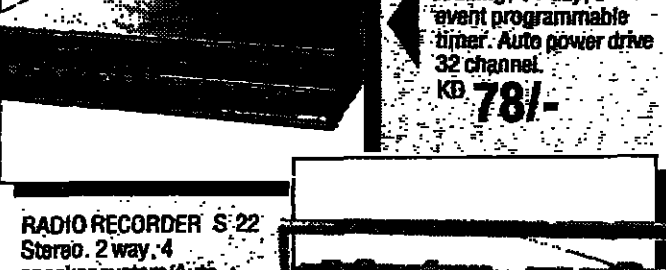
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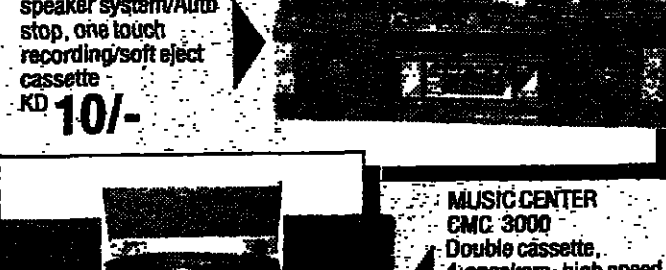
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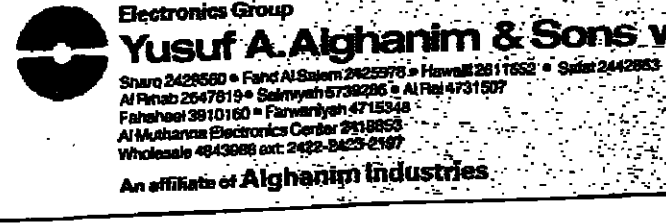
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INTERNATIONAL

Israel suspends credentials of three British journalists

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Oct 26, (AP): Israel has suspended the press credentials of three British journalists, charging they violated military censorship by not submitting reports about Army undercover units in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The credentials of Paul Taylor and Steve Weizman of the Reuters news agency and Andrew Whitley of the Financial Times were suspended yesterday pending the outcome of an investigation, said Yoram Ettinger, head of the government press office.

"There is an obvious violation of security regulations without relevance to the authenticity of the information," Ettinger told reporters. Military censorship officials filed police complaints and said police would investigate the case.

Under Israeli law, journalists must submit reports relating to security matters to military censors. The government has not clearly defined "security matters" and leave the submission of reports to the discretion of correspondents.

Defend

As a result of the suspensions, government and Army officials will not grant interviews to Taylor, Weizman and Whitley. A Reuters story written by Weizman on Sunday said under-

cover Army units had unusual orders to shoot Palestinians suspected of organising violent demonstrations.

"We stand by the story," said Taylor, 34, the Reuters bureau chief in Israel. Taylor said he did not think the agency violated censorship regulations, but did not elaborate.

Whitley's story on Oct 11 said undercover troops used Arab cars and posed as journalist to detain suspected rioters.

Whitley, 39, said he didn't feel he violated censorship because he based his report on previously published material. He also noted that he reported on the undercover units in the context of a larger story about stronger steps taken by the Army to quell the Palestinian uprising, well into its 11th month.

Condemn

"I don't believe I endangered Israel's security by exposing dirty tricks in the West Bank, but I believe my security is endangered by these people posing as journalists," Whitley told the Associated Press.

In response to the reports, the Army said in a statement: "Units carry out varied operational activities to preserve security and order, in accordance with the law. There is no unit in the IDF which is authorised to act, or which acts, against the well-known rules for opening fire which are grounded in the law."

Taylor has worked for Reuters for 11 years, including postings in Iran, West Germany, France and Belgium. Weizman, 34, who has dual Israeli-British citizenship, has worked for Reuters in Israel for 18 months.

Whitley has worked for the Financial Times for 11 years. Before coming to Israel three years ago, he was posted in Iran, France and Brazil.

British commentators expressed deep concern today over Israel's withdrawal of the press credentials of the journalists.

Mistaken

Much of the occupied Gaza Strip and scattered stores in Arab East Jerusalem and the West Bank city of Hebron were shut down today after many Palestinians misread a badly printed underground leaflet declaring a general strike.

In some areas of the West Bank, youths who normally enforce strikes went to merchants yesterday to explain that the strike was supposed to be Oct 29 — next Saturday — not Oct 26th.

Seven Arab youths were reported shot and wounded, meanwhile, when clashes erupted between stone-throwers and Israeli troops today in the occupied territories.

Dhaka lifts ban on two newspapers

DHAKA, Oct 26, (AP): The government has lifted bans on two Bengali language national dailies saying the step was to show respect to "freedom of press and democratic principles," an official statement said.

The two newspapers, the Inqilab (revolution) was banned on Sept 26 while the Banglar Bani (Voice of Bengal) was shut down in November last year.

The government had given no specific reason for closing the newspapers except to say they were publishing "objectionable materials."

It is believed the Banglar Bani was banned because of its support for the opposition during its campaign against the rule of President Hussain Muhammad Ershad. The opposition campaign began in November, but fizzled out later.

Protests

The Inqilab was banned after it published reports criticising a government move to transfer custom officials that it said was designed to open the country's ports to smugglers.

The two papers' management had no immediate reaction to the lifting of the ban.

Ershad, a former Army general, seized power in a coup in 1982. He held parliamentary elections in May 1986 in which his Jatiya Party won a massive majority. Opposition says the polling was rigged. Ershad resigned from the Army in August 1986 and was elected President in October 1986.

Jayewardene agrees to dissolve Parliament

COLOMBO, Oct 26, (Reuters): Sri Lanka's President Juma Jayewardene, facing mounting opposition to his government, agreed in principle today to dissolve Parliament and hold elections under a caretaker administration.

But he said he would only go ahead with the proposals, made earlier by four widely respected Buddhist leaders, if they were also accepted by the Marxist People's Liberation Front.

Officials have blamed the front for inciting widespread anti-government protests in recent weeks.

Raised

Jayewardene, in a letter replying to the Buddhist leaders' proposals for bringing peace to Sri Lanka, said he and the government have agreed to announce a date for parliamentary elections.

The letter, released to reporters, did not specify either the poll date or when it would be announced.

Jayewardene also added that a caretaker government would only supervise elections in accordance with the constitution.

Political analysts said that under the constitution, ministers could continue to function as a caretaker administration.

Jayewardene said that the Buddhist leaders' proposals had also been raised by opposition parties and he would hold discussions with them on Thursday.

Curfew

The chief monks of Sri Lanka's four main Buddhist groups put their proposals in a letter to Jayewardene on Oct 20, urging party leaders and the public to act with restraint in the present "dangerous" situation.

Buddhists form 70 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people.

Jayewardene's reply came as anti-government protests continued in several parts of the country despite a curfew.

Almost the entire staff, including doctors and nurses, of a government hospital in the central highlands town of Kandy went on strike, residents said.

They said police were called in to cook and serve meals to the 800 patients.

Sacked minister appointed Rafsanjani's adviser

NICOSIA, Oct 26, (AP): Hashemi Rafsanjani, Iran's powerful Parliament Speaker and acting Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, today appointed former Revolutionary Guards Minister Mohsen Rafiq-Doust his military adviser.

Rafiq-Doust was appointed in November 1982 as minister of the Revolutionary Guards, who comprise elite fighters devoted to Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini.

He was dismissed last September after a no-confidence vote at the Majlis (Parliament).

Rafiq-Doust had been blamed by several Parliament members for a series of battlefield defeats in the war with Iraq earlier this year. The setbacks forced Iran to accept a United Nations ceasefire in the war in July.

The truck took hold on Aug 20. A staunch supporter of Khomeini, Rafiq-Doust had organised security for the revolutionary leader's return home from exile in February 1979 to overthrow the monarchy.

Official daily raps Algerian ruling party

ALGIERS, Oct 26, (Reuters): The official daily Al Moudjahid today made an unprecedented attack on Algeria's ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) denouncing it as sterile and soporific.

In a front-page editorial the newspaper, for more than 25 years the party's mouthpiece, welcomed reform which it said signalled the end of the FLN's monopoly of power.

This monopoly was "the main cause of sclerosis and sterility, soporific par excellence, at worst a tool to obstruct the way for competent people..." it said.

The newspaper was commenting on reforms outlined by President Chadli Benjedid on Monday that would allow non-party candidates to stand for election to popular assemblies and remove professional organisations from the control.

The measures drawn up after bloody riots earlier this month stop short of allowing rival political parties, but reduce the dominant role of the FLN. Chadli hinted pluralism could eventually follow after democratic bodies were strengthened.

Carlucci to visit Mideast

WASHINGTON, Oct 26, (Agencies): US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci will make a week-long trip to Jordan, Egypt and Israel beginning on Friday after he attends a NATO meeting in the Netherlands, the Pentagon has said.

Carlucci will attend a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation nuclear planning group (NPG) meeting at Scheveningen in the Netherlands.

Defence Department spokesman Dan Howard told reporters Carlucci would then fly to Jordan on Friday as head of the US delegation to the annual joint military commission meeting between the two countries from Oct 29 to 30.

Carlucci will also visit Egypt from Oct 31 to Nov 2 and will conclude the trip with a visit to Israel from Nov 2 to 4, Howard added.

"While visiting the region, Carlucci will meet with senior civilian and military officials to discuss a wide variety of global, regional and bilateral issues," the Pentagon said in a brief statement.

Defence officials, who asked not to be identified, said he planned to discuss Middle East peace prospects and US arms sales in the region among other matters with leaders of the three countries.

In a speech this week, Carlucci accused some members of the Congress and the Israeli lobby in Washington of endangering peace in the Middle East and threatening American influence in the region by opposing US arms sales to moderate Arab countries.

Israeli television announced last night that American and Israeli defence ministers will sign an agreement to provide Israeli Air Force with advanced F-15 aircraft in addition to 60 F-16 war planes.

Israel will start receiving the planes by the beginning of next year, the television added.

Delegates representing the two ministries met in Tel Aviv yesterday to discuss several subjects concerning the strategic co-operation agreement between the two parties.

'Advisers'

ISLAMABAD, Oct 26, (AP): Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government claimed that 69 American and "Arabian" advisers were killed yesterday as they helped Muslim rebels in the eastern part of the country.

A half hour later, it claimed the number was only six.

A US embassy spokesman in Islamabad called the reports "unbelievable" and "ridiculous."

Official Radio Kabul, monitored in Islamabad, also announced that Afghan authorities had decided to release two West German medical personnel captured after treating civilian war wounded.

Syria ready to resume relations with Britain

LONDON, Oct 26, (Agencies): Syria is ready to start talks about restoring diplomatic relations with Britain, a governing Conservative Party legislator said yesterday after visiting Syria despite government disapproval.

Robert Hicks said he and three other British legislators who visited Syria this week achieved "a recognition by the Syrians that, provided the right framework can be found, they are prepared to enter into discussions which would lead to the restoration of diplomatic relations."

Hicks, who spoke in a radio interview, returned early. The other legislators are still in the Middle East and yesterday visited Beirut where three Britons are among 17 foreign hostages.

Britain severed relations with

Syria two years ago, charging Syrian involvement in a plot to blow up an El Al airliner departing from London.

In a separate development the United States said Syria has expressed interest in acquiring one of the Soviet Union's most sophisticated warplanes, the long-range, swing-wing Sukhoi 24 attack bomber.

"We have heard that the Syrians are interested in acquiring the Sukhoi 24 and probably discussed this with the Soviets," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

"But we cannot confirm reports that a deal has been concluded," he said.

He said the matter has been discussed with Israel, Washington's closest ally in the Middle East and a long-time adversary of Syria, but gave no other details.

France sent soldiers to Iraq

PARIS, Oct 26, (Reuters): The satirical weekly Le Canard Enchaîné said yesterday that the French Army secretly sent personnel to help Iraq during the Gulf war and hushed up the deaths of four soldiers.

The weekly said the families of the dead men, killed when a cannon being tested blew up in Iraq in June 1985, were asked to keep quiet about the incident.

The French Army conducted the funerals and took care of four other soldiers injured in the explosion but had not yet paid the bereaved families adequate compensation, the weekly said.

The men had all been sent, dressed in civilian clothing and without identifying papers, to try out a new long-range 155-mm cannon France had sent to Iraq.

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Spanish minister arrives in Kuwait

KUWAIT, Oct. 26, (Agencies): Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez discussed Gulf war peace talks and other Middle East issues today with Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Ordonez, the first Spanish foreign minister to visit the northern Gulf state, arrived from Saudi Arabia on a Gulf tour before Spain assumes the European Economic Community (EEC) presidency on Jan. 1.

A Spanish embassy official described the talks as friendly and said Ordonez will meet HH the Amir and oil and finance ministers on Thursday.

Investments
Among likely topics are investments in Spain by the London-based Kuwait Investment Office (KIO), a government investment arm.

KIO has built up a \$1 billion portfolio in Spanish equity since 1984, at times stirring controversy by seeking a management role in some Spanish firms.

The minister's two-day visit coincides with a high-level Madrid delegation's visit to Tehran.

Madrid hopes to cash in on its

relatively good relations with Iran and share in the war-shattered nation's post-war reconstruction. Ordonez is also expected to discuss with Kuwaiti leaders developments in the Middle East, and in particular the Palestinian uprising on the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Persuade
Spain has backed an international conference on the Middle East question with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as an equal partner with other participants.

Kuwaiti leaders were expected to urge Ordonez to use Madrid's influence with its European Community partners, and persuade them to play a more active role in efforts to secure the convening of a Middle East conference.

Pact
After his arrival in Kuwait, the Spanish foreign minister met with HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, before starting talks with Sheikh Sabah.

Ordonez will also meet on Thursday with Gulf Co-opera-

tion Council (GCC) Secretary General Abdullah Bishara, the official said.

The GCC — which groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman — initiated a broad co-operation pact with the EEC last year and the two sides are now discussing a free trade agreement.

Meanwhile, Spain's Ambassador to Kuwait Juan Jose Arbolio today hailed his country's relations with Kuwait and the speech delivered by HH the Amir at the UN General Assembly last month.

In separate interviews with 'Al Rai Al-Aam' and another local newspaper, Arbolio praised the speech delivered by the Amir, saying the speech emphasised Kuwait's credibility and its positive and important role in alleviating the effects of debts of the Third World states and assisting their development projects.

The envoy stressed that relations between Spain and Israel will not undermine the fraternal relations between Madrid and the Arab world. The Arab countries understand the declared policy of Spain concerning Arab rights, he said.



HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah (centre) talks with Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez (left) as Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed looks on.

New US carrier group due to arrive in Gulf

MANAMA, Oct. 26, (AP): A new US carrier battle group is due on station in the Arabian Gulf this weekend, but the long-scheduled change will not affect the strength of the Navy force in the Gulf region, officials said today.

The nuclear-powered carrier USS Nimitz and eight support ships making up "Battle Group Bravo" replace a similar unit headed by the Carrier Carl M. Vinson. Both battle groups are part of the US Pacific fleet.

US officials, asking not to be named, said the change will leave the United States with 26 ships, one fewer than when the ceasefire ending the 8-year war between Iraq and Iran went into effect Aug. 20.

The US naval contingent is by far the largest of seven foreign naval units in the Gulf region. About 16 US ships, including six minesweepers, are inside the Gulf at any one time.

Reductions
Pentagon officials say the American force will be scaled back if the ceasefire continues to hold, eventually to five or six ships. That was the size of the Navy's Middle East force when the war escalated in mid-1987.

and the United States began escorting tankers reflagged with the Stars and Stripes.

The officials have not disclosed a timetable, but military sources say some reductions will likely be made through attrition or change-of-orders for ships marked for Gulf duty.

Military sources say a US carrier force probably will continue to operate in the Indian Ocean for about half the time, as it did prior to the Gulf crisis.

In the only force outback to date, the Aegis-type cruiser Mobile Bay saw its orders for the Gulf cancelled Aug. 12, the day before it was to leave for the Middle East to replace its sister ship, the USS Vincennes.

The Vincennes' departure in early September then cut the US fleet to the current level of 26.

Surveillance
Although there have been no further reductions in fleet strength, the Navy has curtailed air surveillance activities and ended the close escorting of US-flagged oil tankers through the Gulf.

US warships now monitor the tankers' movements, ready to respond in case of trouble. There

have been no armed incidents reported in the waterway since the truce, military and shipping officials say.

The ninth such movement since the new policy began earlier this month was under way in the Gulf today, with the 46,723-ton tanker Gas Queen upbound, US officials said.

Among other foreign navies in the Gulf, Britain and Italy also have announced they will no longer accompany commercial ships in convoy, instead maintaining a role similar to that of the US warships.

The impending switch in US carrier battle groups returns one of the Navy's superpowerful Aegis-type missile cruisers to the area for the first time since the Vincennes departed.

Officials said the USS Anietiam, one of the newest of the high-tech, billion-dollar warships, is making its first trip to the region as a Nimitz escort.

Other members of the battle group are the nuclear cruiser California, missile destroyers Waddell and Benjamin Stoddert, the ammunition ship Kiska, the supply ship Mars and the oiler Williamette.

The Navy forces in the Gulf and outside operate together as the US Joint Task Force Middle East, a command set up last year to alleviate what US officials said was confusion caused by ships from both the Atlantic and Pacific regions being assigned at the same time.

Electronics, microcomputer exhibit begins

DR Kazem Behbehani, assistant director for research affairs, represented Minister of Higher Education Dr Ali Abdullah Al Shamlan at the opening of the fourth microcomputers and electronics exhibition last Monday.

The university branch office of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers organised the event.

In his opening speech he said that personal computer technology gave users many opportunities and choices. The expansion in personal computer applications in scientific research, commerce, industry and laboratories made this technology a necessity at any establishment, he said.

Kuwait University established computer centres at various colleges and programming skills were developed to suit requirements of these centres, he said.

Student Chairman Omar Sharif of the IEEE said that the aim of the annual exhibition is to provide Kuwaiti society and the university with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the latest technological developments in electronics and microcomputers.

Several local computer and electronic companies participated in the exhibition. It is open daily from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm and from 4 to 8 pm until Friday. Many of the companies have discounted prices of their products for the duration of the exhibition.

Ministry to share computerised data with Authority

THE Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour will soon connect the computerised visa details of workers in the private sector to the computer system at the Public Authority for Civil Information.

The implementation is in response to directives from the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed. It is part of a comprehensive project to interconnect ministries with this system.

In a related development, Adnan Omar, director of the Hawalli Labour Department, held a series of meetings with senior officials at the authority to discuss co-operation between the ministry and the authority in this respect.

Waldheim visit aimed at bilateral co-operation

VIENNA, Oct. 26, (KUNA): Austrian President Kurt Waldheim has affirmed that "deep friendship ties" between his country and Kuwait constitute a good base for promotion of bilateral co-operation, particularly in the commercial field.

In an exclusive interview with Kuwait News Agency, (KUNA), Waldheim said strengthening economic and trade exchange and bilateral co-operation will be among the main aims of his visit, to Kuwait on Monday.

The Austrian president welcomed the recent proposal by HH the Amir of Kuwait on settling developing countries' debts. The Amir made the proposal before the 43rd UN General Assembly.

Support
He described the 'Amiri' proposal as "one of the most outstanding initiatives so far made to reach a solution for Third World states' debts crisis." Waldheim has also expressed satisfaction over the ceasefire

agreement reached by Iraq and Iran. However, real negotiations for achieving a peace treaty between the two neighbouring countries have not yet started, he said. "Such negotiations will certainly be more difficult and more complicated than the ceasefire agreement," Waldheim warned.

The Austrian leader reiterated his absolute support for convening a UN-sponsored international conference to try find a peaceful settlement in the Middle East, provided that all parties concerned with the conflict therein, including the PLO, participate.

Basils
He said: "It seems to me that it is quite difficult in currently prevailing situation to take the UN 1947 Resolution 181 on partition of Palestine as a base for achieving settlement to the Middle East conflict."

Waldheim stated that since that time the region has witnessed certain developments which cannot be ignored. Those

developments prompted UN Resolutions 242 and 338 which have to be taken as a basis for reaching any peaceful accord in the region within an internationally sponsored conference, the Austrian head of state stressed.

Waldheim affirmed that a UN resolution adopted in 1975 which considers Zionism a sort of racial discrimination, "cannot be repeated unless a new UN General Assembly resolution cancelling it is passed."

Dye discovered in Arabic coffee

MANAMA, Oct. 26, (UPI): Authorities in the United Arab Emirates said on Tuesday they discovered Arabic coffee containing up to 65 per cent dye, the UAE news agency WAM reported.

The Abu Dhabi Municipality said eight different kinds of coffee tested at a state laboratory were found to contain the artificial dye.

Bush to continue tanker reflagging, if elected, aides say

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26, (KUNA): If elected George Bush would continue foreign policies similar to President Reagan's, but with slight changes in style and priorities, Bush aides and those familiar with his thinking said today.

They suggested Bush will stand by such important Mideast decisions as the reflagging of Kuwaiti oil tankers — which he had a key role in formulating. In general, Bush's foreign policy advisers told the Washington Post, the vice-president is far less ideological than Reagan.

His visits to 72 nations over the last eight years imbued him with a practicality somewhat lacking in Reagan, they said.

The sources said Bush disagreed with the administration's decision to send American Marines to Beirut in 1983, an action resulting in the deaths of 248 of them in a terrorist bombing.

They said that viewing the devastating Marine headquar-

ters just after the attack left the vice-president especially impressed with the need for clear-cut American foreign policy objectives.

Bush felt the US and the Marines went into Lebanon without such clear goals, aides and others familiar with him said.

Moreover, the fact that the US "cut and ran" after the Marine disaster, which Bush also reportedly disagreed with, persuaded him that America needs to stand by such Arab friends as Kuwait, they added.

After the humiliating withdrawal, Bush travelled through the Arab states and tried hard to convince regional leaders the US was a trustworthy strategic friend.

Such high-level talks led to Bush's enthusiastic support for the plan to reflag Kuwait's 11-vessel merchant fleet, protecting them from attacks by Iranian gunboats, Bush confidants said.

Gulf Theatre celebrates anniversary

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE Gulf Theatre is one of the cornerstones of the theatrical movement in Kuwait. Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and acting Information Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed said on Tuesday at Dasma auditorium on the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Gulf Theatre in Kuwait.

He said that the theatrical movement has enriched social debate inside and outside Kuwaiti society. He pointed out Kuwait's role in backing this movement and officials' efforts in this field.

The minister stressed the

government's support for this cultural movement since the 50s to build a solid ground for such cultural activities.

Sheikh Nasser praised Sager Abdul Aziz, Johar Salem and Abdul Azzi Mohamedas for their past achievements.

Exchange
Abdul Aziz Al Sirral reviewed the activities of Gulf Theatre. He said that the theatre built a concrete foundation for the cultural movement inside Kuwait which travelled beyond its borders to other theatrical groups in the Arab world.

He added that the celebration was expected to be small, but it grew bigger as representatives

from the Gulf and Arab world attended.

Al Sirral said this celebration is also an opportunity to exchange views and proposals to develop the theatrical movement in the Arab world.

At the end of the celebration, medals and certificates were distributed among artists who played a prominent role in laying down the foundations of the cultural movement in Kuwait.

A seminar on Wednesday at the Meridien Hotel was headed by Dr Ibrahim Kholum to discuss the first three plays by the Gulf Theatre. The plays were directed by Sager Al Roshoud and staged at Dasma auditorium on Wednesday evening.

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BAHRAIN DIGEST

Kuwait artist displays paintings

ASIM NAUSHAD KHAN, a prominent Pakistani artist based in Kuwait, is holding a one-man exhibition of his paintings at the Bahrain Art Society.

The exhibition, the first for the artist in Bahrain, was opened on Monday by Director of Art and Culture, Hassan Kamal.

Khan who has been painting for 19 years, is a specialist in oil portraits. His paintings of the exhibition clearly show his inspiration from Arab culture. The rich Arab environment is depicted vividly by the artist in each of the 40 paintings.

He has captured the spirit of the Arab life — whether in the souk or in the desert. There are portraits of carpet-sellers, Arab housewives clad in the traditional 'abba'. The theme of ordinary people and their daily life runs through his works.

Khan is particularly brilliant in portraying people. His figures come alive by his use of rich, bold and attractive colours.

The artists' versatility enables him to create portraits from old and faded pictures. He has also done some remarkable adaptations of some of the masters of the 19th century.

Khan has been living in Kuwait for 15 years and has his own studio there. He is married with three children.

His exhibition in Bahrain is his fifth worldwide. The exhibition ends on Friday.

Archbishop visits Bahrain

ONE of the leading archbishops of the Catholic Church in India, the Most Reverend Dr Benedict Mar Gregorios, is in Bahrain on a five-day private visit enroute to the Vatican in Rome as a member of the World Pontifical Commission. He will participate in the final drafting of the Canon Law for the Oriental Churches in Rome.

Mar Gregorios is the archbishop of Trivandrum, Kerala, and president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI).

He will lead a Holy Mass in Malayalam at 9 am on Friday at the Sacred Heart Church. A public meeting will follow at St Barth's Club, which will be attended by the Indian Ambassador, M.P.M. Menon, and vicars of sister churches on the island.

The archbishop will also attend a dinner in his honour at the Diplomat Hotel on Saturday.

A preacher, philanthropist, educator and social reformer, Mar Gregorios is the president of more than 150 schools and three colleges in Kerala as well as the Chestnut Home for Disabled in Trivandrum. He belongs to the Order of 'The Imitation of Christ' within the Catholic Church.

Rat poison found in family's rice

THIRTEEN members of a Kuwaiti family escaped poisoning a few days ago after an employee of the Health Ministry's Anti-rodents Department mistakenly added rat poison to the family's supply of rice, according to a local daily.

Khalawi Al Fadhi said he and his wife had gone to the clinic and the children were at school when the department employee visited the home.

Only the father, who does not speak Arabic, was home at the time.

The rice bags were stored in the kitchen of the home in Sulaybiyah. The maid was preparing food and had used rice from an uncontaminated bag in another part of the kitchen, Al Fadhi said.

When his wife came home and went to the kitchen to supervise the cooking she saw some strange looking yellowish seeds in the

rest of the bags of rice. These seeds were later discovered to be poison.

Fadhi called upon officials at the Anti-Rodents Department to make appointments to ensure that someone responsible from the household is home. He reported the incident to the Sulaybiyah police station, but was told to approach the Anti-Rodents Department.

A local daily was informed that this is not the first time that such incidents have occurred. Similar incidents have been reported earlier in the same area.

A resident who attended a meeting with Khalawi said that he discovered a large amount of mice poison in front of his house. If children tamper with poison it could lead to tragedy, he said.

UN studies proposals for aircraft

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 26, (Reuters): The United Nations is studying various proposals to provide helicopters and planes for the UN force monitoring the Iran-Iraq ceasefire, but no decision has been made, a UN spokesman said on Tuesday.

He said the office of Under-secretary General Marrak Goulding, who heads the UN peace-keeping operations, was exploring various sources.

"Various proposals from member states and commercial sources have come in for such equipment for the operation, but no decision has been taken concerning them," he added.

The spokesman was commenting on a report that the UN had invited tenders from private firms to supply the helicopters and planes.

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- Neck-ties Christian Dior KD. 5.000
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- Overcoat (German) KD. 25.000
- French trousers KD. 5.000

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EVENTS



Table Talk

BY DINAH

ONCE upon a time, a consumer's choice was largely determined by how far he or she was willing or able to trek in search of goods or services. But now it seems that the familiar sight of couples yo-yoing the length of the High Street for their bargains, blenders or batteries will soon be a thing of the past, for this is the Age of the Complex. There are store complexes, bank complexes, even ministries have got in the act, so it comes as no surprise that we now have the restaurant complex.

The recently opened Sultan Center Restaurant, subtitled "The Only Place" to suggest that it is as far as you will ever have to go to satisfy your gastronomic needs, is yet another manifestation of the planners' desire to streamline our day-to-day activities by putting all that we have ever wanted under one roof. And how? With a choice of Chinese, Mexican and Western-style restaurants, you cannot go far. Wrong. Or can you? Conscious of the likelihood of being accused of too often frequenting the pricey places and in the mood for murdering a good steak, I chose Jean's

Chilling experience

Cafe. Though hardly expecting the place to be decked out with steer horns and cartwheels, I did think that both the decor and atmosphere were wide off the mark theme-wise. Were it even intended to appeal to the jeans generation, I doubt that it would fare much better. It is a stylistic hotchpotch of tiled floor, dark wood furniture, copper-cowled lights and motorway-cafe crockery. The place is designed for production-line style eating and to my mind, completely lacks warmth. Which brings me to the food.

Range

The range of starters is limited to a few soups, Mexican chilli, shrimp cocktail and smoked salmon, which I suppose should not be criticised in view of the fact that the emphasis is meant to be on steaks and burgers. I ordered the Mexican chilli, which was not too hot in any sense of the word! It came as a mild-flavoured, lukewarm liquid (so much for not ordering soup!), which had the sweetness one tends to associate with canned sauces.

Our enthusiasm only slightly marred, my guest and I awaited the arrival of the meat course. I had ordered the *Fillet Mignon* and what I got certainly looked marvellous, but the first forkful was enough to cool my ardour. I have heard of cold cuts but this was getting ridiculous! The fact that there was no evidence of any seasoning did not help matters either. Clearly I was not the only one who was in the mood for murdering a good steak! I thought it was a

thorough waste of an otherwise excellent piece of meat. We were offered a choice of French fries, baked potato or rice as an accompaniment, in addition to a complimentary salad from the bar. I opted for the salad on its own and got French fries anyway; my guest asked for rice and got... French fries. No big deal — I like French fries, I love French fries. HOT French fries. I really ought not to have carpooled about the state of my meal so much and been more sympathetic to my guest, who had the unenviable task of getting to grips with the *Mixed Grill*. It consisted of a minute chicken leg (or was it perhaps quail?), two chunks of overcooked and woody-textured lamb chop and an equally desiccated slice of veal. I will be perfectly frank and say that at KD 2.500, it was an absolute disgrace.

By the time we had reached the end of this chilling experience, neither of us was in any mood to finish up with ice-cream sundaes, which were the only alternative to an unappetising selection of fagged-about and sad-looking items on the dessert table.

The bill for this poor fare was KD 9.150, which I thought was expensive for a restaurant of its type, even if what we attempted to eat had been better prepared. At least the coffee was hot.

Restaurant: Jean's
Type: Western-style restaurant at the Sultan Center
Meal: Two course dinner
Price: KD 9.150 (for two)
Star rating (out of five)
Food: *
Service: ***
Atmosphere: *
Value for Money: *

WHAT'S ON

CINEMA

Children's Film
OCT 27: A film for children, will be shown at the British Council on Oct 26, 6 pm, and Oct 27, 10.30 am. Admission free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

THEATRE

Kathak Recital
OCT 27/28: IAC, Funaites:

NIGHT CHEMIST

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Awkar Bldg., Hilali St.
Hawalli and Nagra
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Al Khaleej Pharmacy
Mujammah St.
New Khatat
Al Ahram Pharmacy
Sulaiman Saleh Rahmani Bldg., Block 2
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
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Al Rashid Pharmacy
Ahmad Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Kuwait Pharmacy
Nasser Al Saqabi Bldg., Qasaba St.
Salwa and Rasmithiya
Al Fida Pharmacy
Jarallah Bldg., Khansa St.
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Al Noor Pharmacy
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Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
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Al Andalus
Laka Hada Al Hub (Arabic)
Starring: Noor, Shariff, Laila Alwi
Al Sahiya
Palestinian Women's Union Show
Al Hasmra
Man Hunt
Drive-In
Ighal Madrasah (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Sabireen, Hisham Salim, Salah Qabil
Al Firdous
Dayavan (Hindi)
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Feroz Khan, Madhuri Dixit
Fahsheel Open-Air
Anjuman (Hindi)
Starring: Shabana Azmi, Farouk Shaikh
Al Fahsheel
Hijack
Al Jahra
Nahar Al Khauf (Arabic)
Granada
My Lucky Stars
Sulabikhat
Mad Mission IV
Al Fleeb
Khoon Baha Ganga Main (Hindi)
Starring: Amrita Singh
Ahmadi Drive-In
Bustan Al Dam (Arabic)
FRIDAY
Al Jahra
Deadly Pursuit
Granada
Aaj Ke Angarey (Hindi)
Sulabikhat
Deadly Friend
Al Fleeb
Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak

Indian dancer Kum Kum Dhar, Odissi dance by Ratna Roy and sarod recital by Dinsh Khan. For entry passes call 2423521; 2644863; 3904817.

Bengali Play
OCT 27/28: 6.30 pm, Mousetrap Theatre. The Mousetrap Group, a Bangladeshi group presents "Ballav Purer Rupkatha, a fairy tale. For reservations phone A. Karim — 2627643; Dr Hyder — 5625456.

MUSIC

David McArthur Recital
OCT 31: 8 pm, Mousetrap Theatre, Jabriya. British pianist David McArthur will give a recital as part of his third annual Gulf tour. For details contact 2469348/2441746/240-2287.

Bob Marley Night
NOV 4: SAS Tent, 7.30 to 9.30 pm: Steve Michael and The Electric Rendezvous will be seeking to recreate the spirit of Jamaica, with a tribute to Bob Marley, the king of reggae. Tel: SAS, ext. 413.

Mike Flight 88
NOV 10: SAS Hotel, The Tent. 9.30 pm: Airline staff will

hold a social evening with music by Juke Box Band, Stepping Stones, and the Jazz Quartet. Buffet, contest, prizes and surprises. For reservation contact Ken Winston — 5740256; John — 2435440; Tony — 2415439.

SOCIAL

Goan Slide Show

OCT 28: Calling all Goans to attend a slide show on Goan heritage will be shown at the Sheraton Hotel at 11 am.

Kuwait Cultural Centre

OCT 30: 4 pm. Kuwait Cultural Centre, Salwa, will hold a workshop for children on "music and movement."

Halloween Party

OCT 31: Children's Halloween pool party at Messilah Beach. Fancy dress competition, pantomime fun and pool fun games. For reservations call the hotel ext. 739/751.

Swedish Ladies Meeting

NOV 1: Swedish ladies meeting will be held at the residence of Mrs Lindblad.

Diwali Celebration

NOV 10: The Indian Arts Circle will celebrate Diwali.

Open to members and their guests. Passes available from the IAC. Funaites. Tel: 3904817.

Navellim Youth Centre

NOV 17: Second social get-together at a local hotel. Music by Stepping Stones. For details ring 240360 after 3.30 pm.

Kuwait Caledonians

NOV 24: St. Andrews Night Dinner will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel. Guests from Scotland will be Able and John Carmichael. For details and reservations ring 5335082; 3727690 ext. 253.

Goa Cultural Association

DEC 8: Goa Cultural Association (S.U.F.A.) will hold their annual social evening at a local Kuwaiti hotel.

SPORTS

Nomads Garden Fete

OCT 28: 12 noon to 4 pm. Kuwait Nomads R.F.C. Garden Fete at Messilah Beach Hotel. Raffle for a BA ticket to London or Madras. Fun for all the family. Admission: 500 fils. For details phone H. McAree (work) 4710576; G.

Bennett — 5382663.

Laser Club
NOV 4: Start of the Messilah Beach Laser Club's winter racing season.

Instruction available. For details contact D. Clark — 2425947; P. Shepherd — 5314957; 4841513; P. Berry — 3924174.

PBAK Awards

NOV 4: 4 pm. Ambassador Alunan C. Glang will present awards to the winners of the first PBAK inter-commercial bowling league. Buffet dinner. Admission: K.D. 5 per person. For reservations phone Sara Macarimbang 4843447; Ojie Olor — 5634200; Cora Paras — 4897536.

Inter-commercial bowling league

OCT 27, 300 Club; 6.30 pm: Men's Division. PPA vs Kay & Asso. Inc; Phil Supreme vs Magnolia; Hatid Ligaya vs Al Naquib & Khattar.

OCT 28: 1 pm: Finals: Step-ladder.

Women's Division: 9 am. Magnolia vs Ged's; Far East Rest. vs Boodai.

NOV 4: 9 am, Finals. Magnolia vs Far East Rest.; Boodai vs Ged's.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
9.45 Al Jawharah
10.15 Tum Tek and Children
10.30 Sky West and the Creekend
11.30 Islam Wal Insan
12.00 Al Zankalooni
1.00 News Summary
1.30 Fawazir Munasabat
2.00 Sports in a Week
4.45 Cartoons
5.15 Liqa Al Khamis
6.30 From People's Art
7.30 Alwan
8.30 With Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Nawa'am: Arabic feature film
11.00 Late Night Variety Show
12.15 We Present
1.50 Closedown
FRIDAY
9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
9.45 Children's Magazine
10.15 Faez Al Tush: Arabic serial
11.00 Ahadith Mauduwa
11.15 Friday Prayer
12.30 From People's Lives
1.00 News Summary
2.15 Hadith Deeni

KTV 2

4.00 Star of the Week
4.45 Ghawi Al Mushakil: Arabic serial
6.00 Kuwait in a Week
7.00 News Summary
8.00 The Family: local talk show
8.45 Weekly religious talk
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Wrestling
10.30 Kaifa Wa Akhwatuba: part 4
11.30 News Summary
12.00 Closedown
KTV 2
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Mask
6.30 Sesame Street
7.30 Mac and Muttley
8.00 News in English
8.40 The Highwayman
9.30 The Cosby Show
10.00 Spectacular Sports: Bloopers and Fabulous Fools
10.30 Late Night Movie: "Streets of Justice." Starring: John Laughlin, Robert Loggia
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown
FRIDAY
4.00 Holy Quran

Silver Hawk

4.10 Silver Hawk
4.30 Italian Football
5.30 Walt Disney Film: "Hero."
7.00 Star Trek: "Code of Honour."
8.00 News in English
8.30 Breaking Away
8.40 Big League Soccer
9.50 Jack Thompson: Down Under
10.30 Diamonds: "Here Comes the Bride."
11.30 News in Brief
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.38 am
Zuhr 11.32 am
Asr 2.42 pm
Maghreb 5.05 pm
Isha 6.23 pm
FRIDAY
Fajr 4.39 am
Friday Prayer 11.32 am
Asr 2.41 pm
Maghreb 5.04 pm
Isha 6.22 pm

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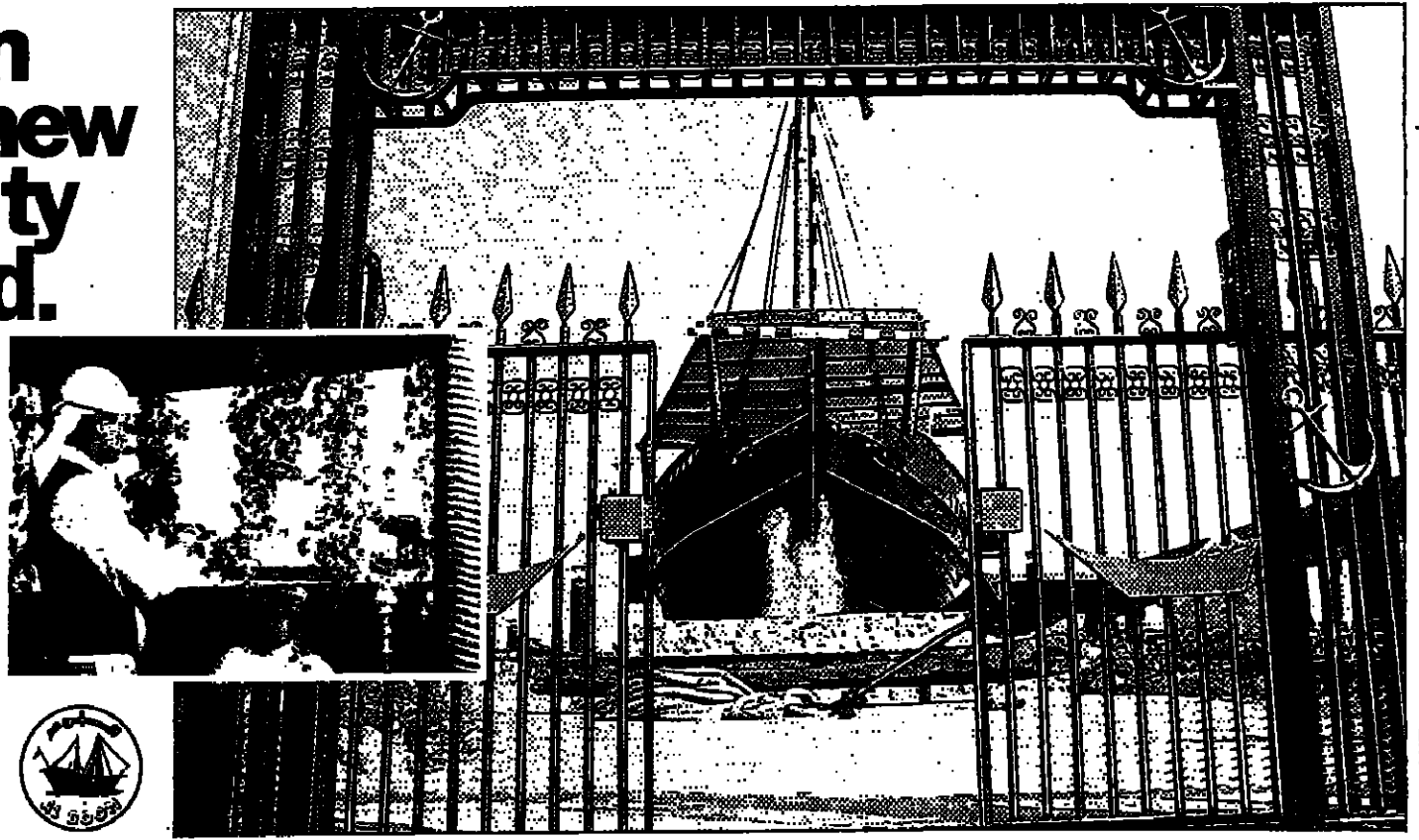
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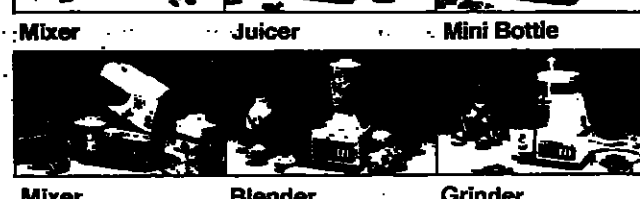
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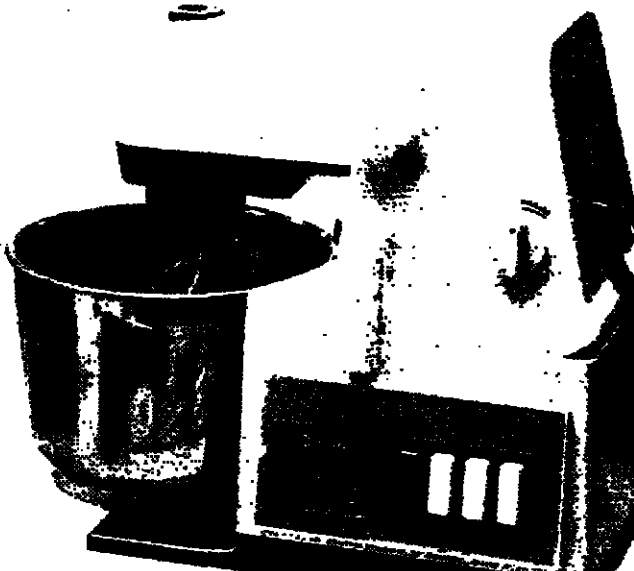
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WHAT we see depends mainly on what we look for —
John Lubbock, English astronomer (1803-1865).

Talks with China

Dalai Lama may alienate Tibetans

By Elizabeth Pisani

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): The Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, proposed on Tuesday, that the first official talks with China on the future of Tibet take place in Geneva in January, but some Tibetans see the talks as a sellout.

The Dalai Lama, in an interview with Reuters at his residence in the north Indian city of Dharmasala on Monday, said he was encouraged by the younger, more open leadership in China.

"If the Chinese leadership were the same as 10 years ago there would be no question of a dialogue. They were like this," he said, clamping his hands over his ears and breaking into the infectious laugh that punctuates his conversation.

He said he would not base the talks on a proposal he made in June to the European Parliament which gave China foreign policy control over an internally self-governing Tibet.

China rejected the proposal, but said the Dalai Lama could set a time and place for talks if he dropped the self-rule idea.

Some Tibetans protested that he had already made too many concessions to China at the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

"There can be no compromise on the issue of independence. I think the Tibetan people will be very sad and very shocked at these talks," said Lhasang Tsering, president of the radical Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC). "We are not fighting for a piece of land, we are fighting for a way of life."

The Dalai Lama said talks did not constitute compromise.

"If I were to make further concessions, the Tibetans might kick out their Dalai Lama," he said, chuckling at the thought, secure in the knowledge they revere him as a god-king.

But he said a massive influx of ethnic Chinese was the main threat. "If it continues, that is the real end of Tibet."

The Dalai Lama's supporters claim some six million ethnic Tibetans live in China. Beijing

Burmese learn to play democracy

By David Storey

BANGKOK, (Reuters): Two youths who called at the home of a Western diplomat in Rangoon one recent evening looked a little sheepish but exuded earnest curiosity.

"Could you please explain to us, what is democracy?" asked one. "What is democracy?"

The Burmese people have been given the chance to play democracy for the first time for a generation but few know the rules of the game.

Those who do were schooled in the first half of the 20th century, when Burmese national politics focused on independence from Britain and a fuzzy interpretation of Marxism by a handful of Buddhist scholars.

At the latest official count, 46 political parties had registered with the military authorities in the month since the Army took power to crush a national uprising against one-party rule.

Inefficient
The trappings of the repressive and inefficient socialist structure in place since General Ne Win's 1962 Army coup are being dismantled and elections have been promised as soon as the new military rulers decree that law and order is restored.

Diplomats say the proliferation of parties and the inability of opposition groups to unite or produce charismatic leaders could jeopardise the democracy experiment, even assuming the Army keeps its promise on elections.

"The joke name for many of the small parties is the 'telephone and petrol party'," a Rangoon diplomat said.

All registering parties, however small, are being offered up to four phone lines and a special monthly petrol allowance, attractive perks in a country where fuel is almost non-existent and communications tightly controlled.

says the figure is less than four million and that as of 1986 only 73,000 ethnic Chinese lived in Tibet, excluding troops.

China gives no figures for its troops in Tibet. Western estimates put military strength there at around 200,000.

The Dalai Lama, swathed in maroon robes, said he hoped China and Tibet would eventually develop a genuinely peaceful co-existence.

"The essential thing is that it is a truly equal and voluntary relationship. It is possible. Why not?" He said. "The only obstacles are ignorance and prejudice."

The TYC advocates armed struggle. "Time is running out. This is our last chance," said Tsering, who claims 10,000 supporters.

"In Tibet, even a Chinese baby will be my target, because he threatens my people's existence."

Tsering said a large number of young Tibetans were trained and ready to fight. "We (exiles) will be taking the initiative, but the bulk of the force will come from within," he said.

The Dalai Lama passionately advocates the non-violence fundamental to Buddhism.

Non-violent
"If we follow a genuine non-violent method, the Chinese find it more difficult to follow," he said.

The Strasbourg plan proposed that Tibet be made into a neutral, non-nuclear zone, acting as a buffer state between the great powers of Central Asia.

The Dalai Lama welcomed Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to China, scheduled for December, for talks on the long-standing dispute over their Himalayan borders.

"I think India and China will eventually develop a real friendship. That would be very helpful for creating a zone of peace in Tibet," the Dalai Lama said.

Speaking at the well-guarded residence to which he fled after a abortive Tibetan uprising in 1959, he said he saw no prospect of returning to Tibet soon and denied having any political ambitions.

Registration also provides protection for those simply wanting to continue the discussions and meetings that blossomed in the one-month "democracy period," a narrow window of free speech and protest before the bloody Army coup on Sept 18.

None of the 46 parties has yet committed itself to running in an election but only a handful would be serious contenders.

The National Unity Party (NUP) is the new political vehicle of the old guard under General Ne Win that has ruled the country for 26 years. It is headed by senior figures from the defunct Burma Socialist Programme Party, the exclusive political force under the old constitution.

The ruling military committee had promised not to favour any party but few Burmese who have seen its ruthless plays to stay in power trust such professions of impartiality.

The students, in the vanguard of the protests, certainly do not. Although they have formed their own party, the Democratic Party for New Society, their chief, Min Ko Naing, has said 30 per cent of the leadership will remain underground in case the overt leaders are arrested.

Suspension
The suppression of independent political activity for a generation has meant many of those emerging as party leaders now were connected with Ne Win's administration at some time, and some with seedier aspects of the old regime.

The chairman of the Democratic Party, Bohmu Aung, was a veteran fighter for Burmese independence with Ne Win and the assassinated national hero Aung San.

More recently, however, he is better known in Rangoon as the owner of the "Star Garden", a nightclub, and his party has earned the nickname the "Star Garden Party".

SIR: We are, all of us on occasions, so aroused or even incensed by some newspaper articles in which some injustice is perpetrated, or some opinions contrary to our own and so patently unfair expressed that we feel duty bound to try to redress the injustice and enlighten other readers accordingly.

I have often been so aroused about it. It is perhaps a sad reflection on my own moral values that, in the event, it has taken something so obviously trivial in the order of things (Table Talk) to persuade me to finally express my annoyance.

I refer to Dinah's Table Talk featuring Riccardo restaurant at the Sheraton. At least Dinah admitted that she (gender assumed) went there "upon the recommendations of many a satisfied customer". I trust that readers did not miss this comment, because they would be better advised following the recommendations of those satisfied customers than being adversely influenced by Dinah's apparently "unsavoury" experience.

Dinah tells us she bent her steps to the Sheraton; so we assume she arrived on foot — this would explain her enormous appetite and decision to

A wholesome experience

"go the whole hog". She had the Antipasto Magro Assortito to start which including artichoke, asparagus, courgette, avocado, celery, shrimp, smoked salmon, chicken and mozzarella cheese plus a good selection of breads. She followed this with a filling pasta dish and then the main course! Not content with this "in the line of duty" she tried desperately to force down a sweet, but sadly was defeated by her own self-indulgence. It was no wonder the bill was "a bit over the odds" (KD 26). We eat at Riccardo regularly and rarely spend more than around KD16 to 18 for the two of us, and always feel well satisfied.

Dinah described a "lively bustling atmosphere" with "noise and frenzied activity" — hardly the kind of place where anyone would want to relax and enjoy a good meal. I have never witnessed any such bustling atmosphere or frenzied activity in our several visits to Riccardo and nor would I want to. Potential customers, take heart, you can and will enjoy your meal at Riccardo in peace with the pleasant yet unobtrusive singing duo

providing just the right backdrop for a relaxing evening with a romantic flavour. If they render songs like "The Green Grass of Home" it is assuredly because they have, on many occasions, been requested to sing such songs by Western expatriates who wish to be reminded of home rather than Tuscany, which they have likely never seen, unless they are widely travelled like Dinah!

The service is never "brisk". Waiters are always attentive and pleasant. If on occasions they have been over zealous in their desire to serve (some customers look for constant attention and quick service) we have politely requested that they allow us time simply advising them that we are not in a hurry. At this the waiters will melt into the background and only appear to replenish your water glass or take your order upon being beckoned by the merest glance in their direction.

But most important of all, of course, is the food. I cannot lay claim to the most discriminating of palates but I can say that my wife and I, and many of our friends, would describe the food at Riccardo as being of

consistently good quality meriting at least a four if not a five star rating.

After reading Table Talk we again visited Riccardo to see if some minor disaster had occurred to bring about a change in the high standards we had come to expect. Happily, we were greeted by the same smiling faces and warm welcome we have always received and, as usual, we much enjoyed a substantial and delightful three course meal for the price of a little over KD16, although, admittedly, this included complimentary sweets (and a Black Forest gâteau to take away) when the head waiter discovered it was my birthday! Others I know of have had similar experiences.

Keep it up Riccardo!

David C. King,
Safat.

Mind your language

SIR: I refer to the report in the Arab Times (Sept 22-23) about a local bank which has asked its staff to speak only in Arabic and English at work.

It is a wise decision and I hope all the banks and other

establishments will follow suit. Talking in front of a stranger or customer or even a friend in one's own language (unless it is unavoidable) is against manners and the listener has reason to suspect that he is the victim.

There are some people who speak in loud unpleasant tone. Talking about Indian languages reminds me of certain people. An American, who visited their native place, was asked by a friend what was the language of that place like. The American replied that he could not follow it but showed them how it sounded. He put a stone in an empty metal container and rattled it. "This is their language," he said.

If this noise is not controlled it will certainly affect our ears and we may have to seriously consider replacing our tympanum.

A.M.,
(Name and address supplied.)

Which Varkey?

SIR: I protest against publishing letters on "Varkey visa" without specifically mentioning which Varkey committed



the crimes as there are hundreds of Varkeys in Kuwait. I understand that this crime was committed by an Indian from Kerala, known as "Hundi" (due to his involvement in the hundi business). It is also known that he is a very popular figure amongst Malayalees in Kuwait.

Why blame Varkey for Hundi's crime?

N.E. Varkey,
Safat.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.



By George D. Moffett III

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: The use of plastic bullets was expected to improve Israel's ability to contain the small, rock-throwing protests that have become the main vehicle of the 10-month Palestinian uprising.

So far, that hasn't happened. In fact, the intensity of the rebellion against Israel's 21-year occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip has not diminished, despite substantially higher casualties that Israeli soldiers have inflicted using the new bullets.

During one two-day period alone, clashes between soldiers and Arabs were reported in over a dozen locations.

What's more, introducing bullets designed to wound but not kill demonstrators has exacerbated a long-running debate in Israel on the appropriate use of military force.

At issue is whether soldiers should open fire merely to deter Arabs from demonstrating, or only when demonstrators threaten soldiers' lives.

Last August, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was reportedly on the verge of recommending an "open fire" policy against stone-

Plastic bullets fail to contain Palestinian uprising

throwers similar to one now in effect against petrol-bomb throwers.

Following strong public protests, Shamir denied that such a proposal was being considered.

Shooting
Plastic bullets seemed to offer the option of shooting, but only wounding, demonstrators, because the plastic combines the accuracy of lead and the low lethality of rubber. The bullets also allow Israeli troops to stay outside rock-throwing range.

Israel Defence Forces (IDF) sources say that since plastic bullets were introduced, soldiers have been given permission to fire stone-throwers, but only their legs and from at least 75 yards away, for the purpose of dispersing demonstrations.

Defence spokesmen have emphasized the desire to keep fatalities to a minimum. At the same time, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said recently that the

IDF's "purpose is to increase the number (of wounded) among those who take part in violent activities... The rioters are suffering more casualties. That is precisely our aim."

But it violates Israeli law, Joshua Schoffman asserts. "It's the purpose of the legal system, not the Army, to punish and deter," says Schoffman, legal director of Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

Controversy
"The problem is that with pronouncements like Rabin's, there is, in addition to official orders, a kind of unwritten code in which there is free use of these bullets," he adds. "If people think the defence minister wants a lot of casualties, you can imagine how the soldiers will react."

So far three Palestinians have been killed and dozens injured by the new bullet.

The mixed results of plastic

bullets, and the controversy surrounding their use, throw into sharp relief the difficulty of making military policy in the absence of a political consensus in Israel on how to deal with the intifadah.

"Any strategies for dealing with the uprising are going to be mere holding actions until the politicians make up their minds," says one leading Israeli defence expert.

The divisions that have paralysed Israel's politicians have put Israel's generals in a straight-jacket. They are capable of making marginal innovations — of which the plastic bullet is the latest — but not bold strategies to deal with the uprising that, according to Army figures, has resulted in 210 deaths and 3,200 injuries, nearly all Palestinian since December.

(The Associated Press reports at least 280 Palestinian and six Israeli deaths.)

The Christian Science Monitor.

Moscow bored with Nov 8 elections

By Susan Cornwell

MOSCOW, (Reuters): A picture of Michael Dukakis in a Soviet newspaper is likely to be accompanied by one of George Bush, reflecting the official media's even-handed treatment of the American presidential candidates.

Compliments, criticism, headlines and even column inches seem to have been doled out dispassionately to Democrat and Republican candidates alike.

Judging from the media's handling of the candidates, the Soviet Union is as bored with the Nov 8 election as many Americans are.

"Reading the pieces it is impossible not to wonder at the balanced skills of the authors," said Melor Sturua, a political analyst for the government newspaper Izvestia, in a recent guest column in Moscow News.

By Ned Temko

LONDON: There is no mistaking it: Jordan's King Hussein is a relieved man these days. He is at peace with himself and he sees a new opportunity for the Arab-Israeli peace.

He does not, however, seem especially optimistic. Anyone concerned with Mideast peace might do well to ask himself, "Why isn't this man smiling?" Why — as King Hussein put it during a lunch and an interview last month — does he fear that the present opportunity for peace may well be squandered?

Hussein, after all, is the longest-ruling political leader in the Middle East. He has been on the throne for 35 years (through six United States presidencies, and almost as many zigs and zags in US Middle East policy.) Earlier and more consistently than any other Arab leader, Hussein has also accepted the need to negotiate an Arab-Israeli peace based on compromise.

The king's single most unexpected, and potentially important, contribution to an eventual peace came this past summer. He renounced Jordan's claim to rule and represent the Palestinians of the West Bank of the Jordan River. It was a difficult decision.

In a region locked into re-enacting past battles and settling past scores, Hussein's turnaround has a wider significance: it is an attempt to learn from history. He wants to help jolt Arabs and Israelis into a fresh look at the conflict — and thus bring about fresh solutions.

The Palestinian intifadah (uprising) that has gripped the

Soviet press gives an even-handed treatment

He argued that Soviet media should reflect the diversity of opinion in the country and be more analytical of US politics now that the era of "glasnost" (openness) is in full swing.

Disinterested
But as far as the government is concerned, the seemingly disinterested coverage serves a purpose: keeping the Kremlin out of the campaign.

"We want to be very cautious. We don't want to do anything to fuel the debate," Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told Reuters.

"There is no official Soviet view of the election," he said, adding, "After all, it is not very exciting."

The Communist Party daily Pravda may have given a clue of

some official attitudes, being slightly more critical of Bush and more complimentary of Dukakis throughout the campaign.

After the first televised debate between the candidates on Sept 26, Pravda declared Dukakis the winner, although it mildly criticised him for modifying his earlier opposition to President Reagan's "Star Wars" programme, the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

Rapped
On Oct 20, Pravda rapped Bush for a speech he gave saying the West should not be lulled by Soviet reforms. Still, by Pravda's standards, it was a gentle blow.

Bush's belief that Washington should deal with Moscow from a "position of strength" contradicts the mutual understand-

ing that has developed between the two superpowers, Pravda said.

"To act according to the recommendations of the vice-president is equal to take one step forward with the left foot and one step backwards with the right foot," it said.

Memories
If Western diplomats' impressions are correct, there are more Bush supporters in Moscow than Pravda would indicate.

Four superpower summits with the Reagan administration have made the vice-president a familiar, and therefore comfortable, figure among Soviet officials, the diplomats say.

"All the officials I know prefer Bush," one Soviet political

analyst at a Western embassy told Reuters. "They want a known quantity."

"They have bad memories of Jimmy Carter in 1977, when he radically changed negotiating positions in arms control negotiations," he said.

Recently Moscow has been abuzz with the tale that Bush has a very big backer in the Kremlin — Gorbachev himself.

According to the Italian newspaper La Repubblica, Italian Prime Minister Ciriaco De Mita left the Kremlin after an October visit convinced that Gorbachev preferred Bush.

During their talks, Gorbachev said he thought the Democrats had good ideas, but he favoured continuity in the US government. De Mita told La Repubblica.

"I am not sure about the correctness of these remarks," Gerasimov told reporters wanting to know whether Gorbachev had been properly quoted.

"We are for continuity," Gerasimov said, but added: "What kind of administration the White House will have depends on the US voter."

Opinions
The opinions of ordinary citizens about who should be Gorbachev's sparring partner at the next superpower talks are as diverse as Soviet society itself.

Baltic nationalists tend to support Bush. Intellectuals tend to back Dukakis. Many people are undecided but express amazement at the way Americans campaign by climbing into tanks and visiting flag factories.

Hussein is a relieved man these days

West Bank for 10 months, Hussein suggests, is at a historic turning point. His message is that the Palestinians want and are willing to die for, political independence. This is independence from everyone, Hussein notes: from Israel, which has ruled the area since the 1967 war, and from Jordan, which ruled for the preceding 17 years. Hussein warns that despite the degree of surface calm Israeli troops may be able to restore, it would be dangerously short-sighted for anyone to think that Mideast stability, much less peace, will be possible without addressing this Palestinian nationalism.

If Hussein seems relieved these days, it is because his action has, at least in theory, cleared the way for those most directly involved in the conflict — the Israelis and Palestinians — to tackle their differences, and to make the difficult decisions necessary for compromise. For the Israelis, says Hussein, this means "recognising the Palestinians and their rights on their soil." For the Palestine Liberation Organisation, it seems "acting in a way that would recognise Israel's right to exist on its soil."

If Hussein seems pessimistic, or at least wary, it is because neither side seems ready to take advantage of the opportunity his summer surprise offered. It is possible, of course, that a superpower nudge toward compromise might help, a nudge

which Hussein says he feels Moscow desires.

Regardless of who ends up in the White House in January, Hussein says he hopes the US will throw its full weight behind such compromise.

The Christian Science Monitor.

By Denholm Barnetson

ISLAMABAD, (UPI): Just two months after the death of President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq in a plane crash, his political legacy has eroded and even his former supporters are distancing themselves from his memory in campaigning for next month's election.

"Zia is becoming largely irrelevant," a political analyst said. "Even his supporters are no longer keeping (his memory) alive."

Zia's 11 years of iron-fisted rule have given way to a democratic mood in the country as its interim leaders push ahead with plans for general elections on Nov 16, Pakistan's first balloting involving political parties since Zia seized power in a 1977 military coup.

"With Zia's death, the political configuration has returned to that of 11 years ago," said one independent former National Assembly member.

Overturned
The turnabout has resulted from a series of court decisions that overturned some of Zia's recent actions as president and by an apparent willingness of the military, which has ruled Pakistan for two-thirds of its 41-year history, to allow democracy to take its course.

The military's new low political profile may be "acknowledgement of the public mood which wants the Army to return to barracks and give democratic politics a chance," said Maleeha Lodhi, editor of the Muslim newspaper.

In May, Zia dissolved the National Assembly and dismissed Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, allegedly because of a breakdown in law and order and the government's failure to speed the implementation of

Zia becoming largely irrelevant

Islamic law. He later called elections for Nov 16 but ruled out participation of political parties.

Following his death in a still unexplained Aug 17 plane crash, a court declared Zia's dismissal of the government illegal.

Oppose
The supreme court upheld the ruling, but declared that since "the whole nation is geared up for elections" it would not oppose the Nov 16 polls. It also overruled Zia's ban on party participation.

Three times in nine days the late president's legacy was dealt a judicial snub, said Lodhi.

The interim government of President Ghulam Ishaq Khan last month also overturned a draconian press law which gave authorities the right to close newspapers and ordered a review of military court sentences.

"It is now difficult to run under Zia's legacy," said a Western diplomat. "Evoking his name is not a good idea."

Zia's critics, including Junejo, have said he never intended to hold elections. Many politicians installed by the late president, apparently fearing a victory by the opposition Pakistan People's Party, led by Benazir Bhutto, made frantic attempts to postpone the polls.

But President Ishaq and the Army Chief of Staff Gen. Aslam Baig, refused to allow any delay.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1523 — English expedition to France fails.
- 1651 — Limerick, Ireland, surrenders to British after lengthy siege.
- 1676 — Peace of Zurawna between Poland and Turkey.
- 1789 — French attempt to invade Ireland fails.
- 1806 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte occupies Berlin.
- 1807 — Spain and France agree to conquer Portugal.
- 1870 — French troops surrender Metz, France, to Prussians.
- 1871 — Britain annexes diamond fields of Kimberley, South Africa.
- 1922 — Southern Rhodesia referendum rejects joining Union of South Africa.
- 1951 — Egyptians abrogate 1936 alliance treaty with Britain and 1899 agreement over Sudan.
- 1966 — UN General Assembly proclaims termination of South Africa's mandate over South-West Africa.
- 1973 — United Nations peacekeeping force arrives in Cairo to attempt to set up lasting ceasefire between Israeli and Arab forces.
- 1977 — President Jimmy Carter rules out any US embargo on trade with South Africa or any ban on US investment in that nation to protest its racial policies.
- 1978 — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat and Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin are awarded Nobel Peace Prize.
- 1987 — South Korean voters approve overwhelmingly new constitution clearing way for first direct presidential elections in 16 years.

CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the
Arab Times

Parties galore in filmland

Much celebration about nothing

DESPITE the absolute failure of some big budget multi-starrers, like *Zalzala*, *Saazish*, *Mahaveera* etc. there has been no recession in the number of new 'mahurats' and parties in the film world. As a matter of fact there seems to be a lot of celebration without much to celebrate about.

Amitabh Bachchan who has recently been raising a lot of eye-brows by signing films left and right participated in the auspicious start of yet another ambitious project *Hum*. The flop actor Ramesh Sharma, who has long been forgotten, launched this film with the controversial Mukul Anand as director. Ramesh was all beans at the *mahurat* boasting that he had three aces up his sleeve, namely, Amitabh, Rajnikant and Govinda.

It was whispered that Mithun was the first choice as the second hero but he refused. He has been playing second fiddle to *lambaji* in too many films and is afraid that he may lose his identity like Rishi Kapoor. So Rajnikant stepped in. This is Kimi Katkar's big chance opposite Amitabh, since the only other heroine is poor little Deepa Sahi. Ramesh printed a series of full-page advertisement's where he described Amitabh as hunted, Rajnikant as unbeaten, and Govinda as magnetic. The three together were described as devastating.

The starting ceremony of *Hum* at Mehboob studios was very well attended, and the first shot rather spectacular. The huge set was first kept in total darkness, then there was a ear-shattering explosion, (the kind they once used, to launch stage dramas). Thereafter Amitabh's booming voice filled the air with "Hum" repeated at least twenty times. The extras then began to echo the word so that hum kept humming in our ears. This was followed by more explosions, smoke, lighting and the set switched to the other side with Rajnikant and Govinda. Suddenly all the three heroes began dancing, joined by Kimi, Deepa, Gulshan Grover etc.

In the same week, some other big films were also started, such as *Sawan Ka Mahina* of Jaya Prada Movies International. The producer is the heroine's brother Raja Babu and the director is *gharwala* Kalpataru.

Jaya's husband Srikant Nahata was nowhere in the credit titles but he attended the *mahurat* with a recorded song.

Jaya saw to it that there were no other stars there except herself. The film's hero will be Rishi Kapoor and Raja Babu has an important role. Another Jaya Prada film to start was *Ghar Ki Mahabharat*. This is a family drama by writer-director Chander Sharma. Once again brother Raja Babu is in the cast along with Neeta Puri, Raj Babbar, Bindu and Kadar Khan. A film starting on a low key was *Kanoon Ki Jung* with Hema Malini and Kabir Bedi directed by Ketan Anand, under the imposing banner Indo American Film Inc.

Cinematographer Kaka Thakur also became a producer-director with *Dharam* though there is no Dharmendra in it. The *mahurat* was performed at Dariya Mahal. Hero Vinod Khanna appeared for the first shot and delivered a word of warning: "I have come to remove all harassment and injustice." (Nobody asked about the injustice which Vinod is meting out to his producers). Others in the cast are Amrita Singh, Danny, Pran and also Kiran Juneja, who has now become accustomed to being a side heroine or vamp.

As there is a film *Akayla* being made with Amitabh, someone decided to make *Akayla* as well.

This is old-timer Raja Nawathe who recently launched the "lonely woman" with Nutan and son Mohish Behl, Sridhara, Nana Patekar, Nandini and Pran.

A big start was given to *Danish Ki Jung* to be directed by K. Bapaiah's assistant S.A. Kader. The cast has the top *Qayamat* pair Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla, with Jeetendra and Jaya Prada putting in special appearances. The



Mithun: does not want to play second fiddle to Amitabh

producer's name or the gentleman himself was nowhere to be found.

The gang which became quite popular with the TV serials *Nukkad* and *Intezar* have started their own feature film called *Kal*. They have called their banner VFY (i.e. We Five) consisting of Dilip Dhavan, Hyder Ali, Gargi, Suresh Bhagwat and Shashyari. Dhavan and Hyder will direct the film but the acting has been left to film star Amol Palekar and Pallavi Joshi. Since a *mahurat* has to have a cocktail party, this TV team also obliged. The star who came to bless the newcomers was Dharmendra of course.

Poor

Poor Nasseruddin Shah and Shabana Azmi have reached the stage of signing films titled *Ek Rang*. It is written and directed by someone called Ajit Asthana. It was too small a film, however to afford a party.

Producer Suresh Grover held a lavish bash at Sea Rock Hotel for his birthday as well as announcing two new films, *Pyar Ka Doosra Naam* and *Khel Vidhata Ka*. Mithun, Neelam and Aamir Khan have agreed to work for him. Yet another party was held for the start of *Zahm Ki Hukumat* with Dharm in a special role.

Paying

TV serials have become so paying these days, that almost every producer and sponsor holds a party, although there is no paying audience for Television and video. Chetan Anand performed a remarkable feat by holding a bash at Sunset Suite of Oberoi Hotel for his serial *Param Veer Chakra*, without even having shot an inch of it.

He just explained to the Press his concept and capacity as a maker of war dramas (*Haqeeqat* etc.). Surprisingly, pet star Raj Kumar is not in it

but Chetan counted upon Alok Nath, Farooque Sheikh, Naseeruddin and even Jackie Shroff. Jackie was sensibly not present to "celebrate" his downfall to the idiot box.

Next day, at the same time and same place, there was another bash for the serial *Kisse Miyan Biwi Ke* starring Priya Tendulkar and Karan Razdan, who have recently married and then it became a post-marriage reception as well. Both parties were well organised by Mudra Communications with their debonair media manager S.S. Shetty, who looked after each and every member of the press. Luckily this serial is ready for screening and some hilarious episodes were also shown to us. One in particular with old Hargal wanting a divorce and coming to the Priya-Karan bureau was excellent. On the same evening, B.R. Chopra's *Mahabharat* sponsors had a party at the Taj, so we had to rush there. It was sprinkled with quite a few starlets and aspiring heroes, who are playing different roles in the epic.



The 'devastating' trio at the mahurat of Hum: (left to right) Govinda, Amitabh and Rajnikant

BEHIND THE SCREEN



'Washing soap' Sangeeta, with Chunky.

As in films, so in real life, the stars are fixing marriages for their children. Shatrughan Sinha has formally asked for the hands of Dharam and Hema's two daughters for his own twin boys Lav and Kush. Hema passed on the buck to Dharam who agreed. The children also seem quite romantic for their age and want to date one another. Who said that child marriages are obsolete? But then star divorces are equally famous and easy for the kids also when they grow up.

Sangeeta Bijlani's one-minute dance for the *Nirma* detergent and the song in praise of the washing powder are now embarrassing her as a star. She cannot even deny that she did it. When people meet or see her, they call her a washing soap Sangeeta. Well at least she is really as slippery as soap.

Aamir Khan has become a romantic heart-throb and has signed many films at a reported price of ten lakhs. Thus the fact of his being married has been suppressed. But the Press recently exposed it. So what? Are not most heroes married and yet popular with female fans? The real danger will come if he ditches his wife.

Mehmood's forgotten sister Minoo Mumtaz is taking her daughter Gulnaaz around to

producers in the hope of film role. Minoo's acting days are over, and perhaps Gulnaaz may continue the family tradition. But one wonders what *haajron* Mehmood has to say about it, since he never furthered the film careers of his own

children.

In *Sheshnaag*, Rekha will act as a snake and perform a dance slithering on the ground. Amazing what people will stoop to — to outdo the success of Sridevi in *Nagina*.

Dharmendra being a farmer at heart cannot tolerate any insult to his kin. Thus he fought hard with director J.P. Dutta who abused some peasants during the outdoor shooting of *Batwara*.



Priya and Karan Razdan celebrate their new serial and also their marriage.



Dharmendra blesses the newcomers of 'Kal'.



Jaya Prada (left) with Neeta Puri at the mahurat of Ghar ki Mahabharat.



The snake charmers: Rekha (left) with Jeetendra and Madhvi in Sheshnaag

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

HAEMORRHOIDS ARE COMMON COMPLAINT

QUESTION: I have been a piles (haemorrhoid) sufferer for many years, but lately I've noticed that they seem to be getting bigger. How is this possible, and what can I do about it?

ANSWER: Haemorrhoids can be painful and can cause bleeding from the rectum, but since they occur almost universally in children and adults, they are not considered an abnormality.

Actually haemorrhoids are groups of enlarged veins, both inside and outside the anus, that occur because of an increase in pressure in the abdomen. This pressure is transmitted by connecting veins, causing the haemorrhoidal veins to swell, grow larger and sometimes to protrude from the anus.

The pressure can be the result of many everyday activities, even walking. Straining during bowel movements, when mild, is considered normal, but can increase with constipation and during episodes of diarrhoea. People who spend long periods of time on the toilet also are at increased risk. In addition, pregnant women may experience problems as the foetus increases the pressure in the abdomen, but fortunately this is a

temporary inconvenience for most.

The most effective means of piles prevention lies in the choice of an appropriate diet. Eating high-fibre foods such as whole-grain breads and cereals, leafy vegetables and fruits helps soften the stool naturally. In turn, the strain of stool passage is reduced and the pressure on the haemorrhoidal veins is reduced. That may help stop from growing larger and reduce your symptoms.

However, if they suddenly grow painful, or if bleeding increases, it's time to have them examined to be certain that they are really a case of simple haemorrhoids.

QUESTION: I'm puzzled and I'm sure many of your readers may have the same question. Is vaginitis and yeast infection the same condition? How is it treated?

ANSWER: I think you are right: many women are confused about this situation. Actually yeast infection is only one type of vaginitis, which is defined as any inflammation of the mucosal tissue that lines the vagina. The causes of the problem are many and can include infections, changes in hormone balance, mechanical irritation and even allergic reactions.

There are three major types of infection: bacterial, yeast (it goes by the name of candidiasis in medical circles) and trichomoniasis. About 20 per cent to 40 per cent of all vaginal infections can be attributed to a yeast infection. The most common complaint is one of itching in the vaginal area. Other problems may include redness and tenderness of external tissue and pain during urination and intercourse. The discharge is usually thick, white and cheesy in nature.

Symptoms like these usually demand attention from a physician and the cause can be determined. Once the cause is clear, a choice of medication can be made, and the prescription of an antifungal agent, such as terconazole, in either cream or suppository form, can rapidly cure the infection and alleviate the symptoms. Then it will be up to you and your physician to try to determine the source of your infection, so that you can take all the steps necessary and avoid the recurrence of this most uncomfortable infection.

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



The lighter side of the news

LONDON, England: One day a group of actors, in between roles, decided to proclaim National Hello Day. They were curious to find out how many people would return a hello from a stranger.

The actors said most people answered, even though the friendly strangers were a bit out of place on the busy London streets that spring day. There were 22 Santa Clauses, four Eskimos, five aliens from outer space and one penguin. And King Charles II.

Saint Paul, Minnesota:
Gigi the orangutan was sitting on a tree branch in her compound at Como Zoo when the branch gave way and tumbled her to the ground. She wasn't hurt, but she looked at the broken branch, gave it a good heft and then propped it against the 12-foot-high concrete wall around her compound, climbed up and over to freedom.

Talk about a lucky break!
New York City:
The Internal Revenue Service is ready for questions and complaints under the recent tax reforms bill that Congress approved and President Reagan signed into law. One tax judge, Howard Dawson, is prepared for many arguments. He recalls one case in which the taxpayer claimed, "As God is my judge, I do not owe this tax."

The judge's reply was, "He isn't. I am. You do."

Newham, England:
Authorities in this East London borough received numerous complaints from people about a campaign to encourage the use of seat belts. The posters read: "Drivers, belt the wife and kids."

Littleton, Colorado:
You can see those "vanity" licence plates everywhere these days. And most states have a strict policy about initials or words that might be offensive or in bad taste. No one thought twice about Brad Thomas's recent request for "OUI OUI" which is French for yes, yes.

But somewhere out there someone else was offended and complained to the motor vehicle bureau. The complainant said that the letters could also be read as "wee-wee", and that was offensive, at least, to the offended person.

The state ordered Thomas to return the plates.

You can't please everyone.

Bay Village, Ohio:
This suburb of Cleveland is the home of the most patriotic baseball fan in the country, Rocco Scotti. He travels around the country to sing the national anthem. Scotti said he began singing it at Cleveland Indians' baseball games around 1973 and performs the song at least 300 times a year.

One day he decided to have his dentist make him a front tooth in the shape and colours of the American flag.

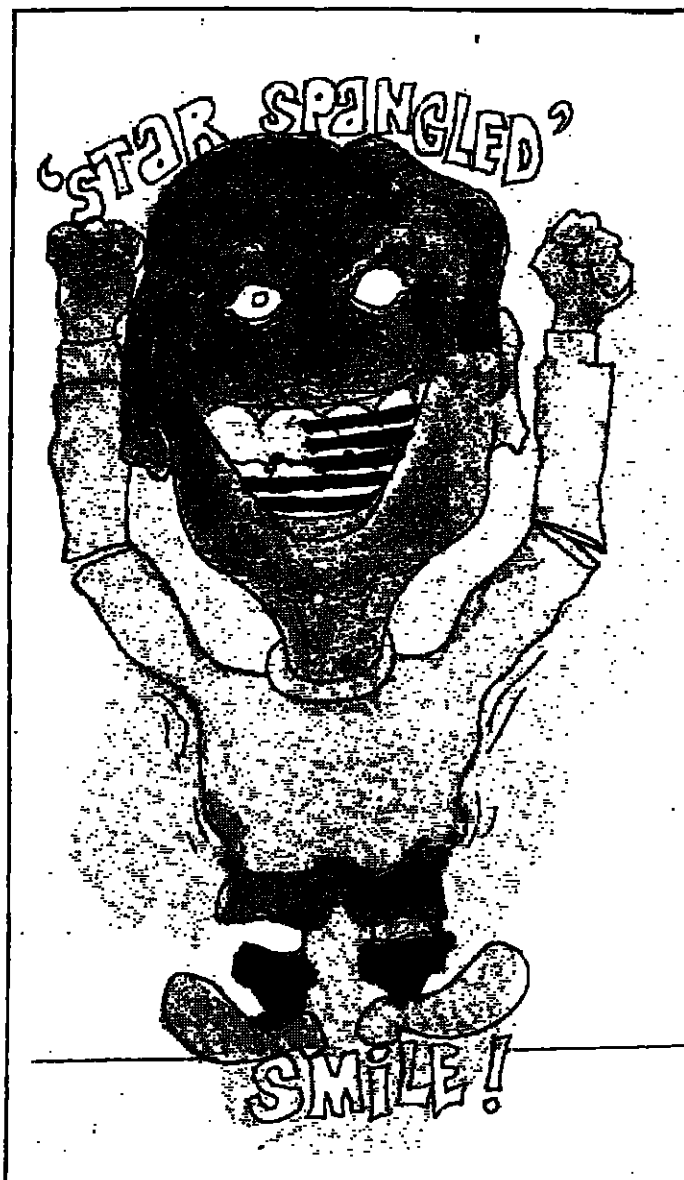
Now, there's a patriotic smile.

Dover, England:

Bill Neal sailed across the English Channel in a bathtub. He was the first to do it, so naturally he was showered with praise.

Morganfield, Kentucky:
The bride wore white overalls and a white hard hat, and the groom wore dark bib overalls and a black hard hat. It was most appropriate for

Author John Bohannon presents a choice collection of news items — deliberate howlers, puns and word-play that weren't edited.



Nancy Robertson and Roger Adamson, who worked in a coal mine. That's where they met, and that's where they got married. The ceremony was held in a mine shaft 700 feet below the surface, which is one way to take the plunge.

Tucson, Arizona:
Police insist this really happened. Noah Dotson showed up in a hospital emergency room for treatment of a gunshot wound. He explained that a fly kept pestering him, and when it landed on his left hand once too often, he took out a pistol and shot at it.

Patterson, New Jersey:
Officials of the school district imposed a dress code on teachers, enforcing a new rule that male teachers cannot take off their jackets and loosen their ties unless the outside temperature hits 80°.

Most of the schools are not air-conditioned, so the teachers are really hot under the collar.

Burlington, Vermont:
Are you fed up with all the potholes in your city? Bruce Ploof was, too. So he began a campaign to persuade city officials to do something, a campaign that got news coverage all over the country in major newspapers and on network TV.

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He planted a tree in every pothole he found.

Huntsville, Texas:

It was a great idea, brilliant in its simplicity. Two inmates of the Texas Department of Corrections, Hercules Gann, 49, and Billy Battenfield, 32, planned their great escape by hiding inside a tractor trailer that had pulled into the prison compound to make deliveries. It worked. Guards failed to check the truck when it left the prison, and 15 miles down the road, where the truck stopped, Gann and Battenfield eased the door open and stepped out. The truck had stopped at another prison, where the two inmates were taken into custody.

Tacoma, Washington:

Two members of the Greenpeace environmental organisation wanted to make a statement about acid rain and air pollution in a certain neighbourhood, so they camped out on the catwalks of a smelter smokestack. They climbed up early one morning. But it was around noon before anyone saw them up there. There was too much smog.

Athens, Georgia:
Students of all ages often use the old excuse: "The dog ate my homework." But Christine

Swartout, a student at the University of Georgia, told her professor she was 40 minutes late for class because a dog with three legs had held her hostage inside her home. She claimed that she was just leaving her campus apartment when she saw a very mean, three-legged dog in front of her door snarling at her. She called campus security, and they dispatched a dog-catcher to Swartout's apartment, but the beast had left.

Some doggone story.

Syracuse, New York:

Many people have memories of those good old school days, writing on the blackboard: "I will not talk in class" 300 times. But the National Education Association of New York took a dim view of that as a punishment for students. Members adopted a non-binding resolution banning such punishment on grounds that it takes the fun out of words and inhibits desired attitudes and essential communication skills.

Union spokeswoman Linda Rosenblatt said she had heard of one student who had to write his name 2,000 times simply because he had forgotten to put his name on a homework assignment.

Some English teachers said if the resolution is adopted, they will retaliate by making certain students do math problems or build bookshelves.

The resolution carried no enforcement power.

London, England:
The Reverend Donald Sherriff kept his clothes on while he conducted a special service for a hundred members of a nudist club, he said. "I wasn't embarrassed at all."

There was a slight problem when the collection plate was passed around, though.

Berlin, West Germany:

A man was taking a walk along the street, minding his own business, when he was hit by a flying dog. Emergency medical teams say the dog fell out of a window four storeys high. Neither the dog nor the man was seriously hurt.

No word on what kind of dog it was. Probably an Airedale.

Madrid, Spain:

It was a grim time when there were no oles in Spain because of a strike by bullfighters' assistants. The matadors had the responsibility of hiring their own assistants, who demanded a 20 per cent raise. But the matadors said they just didn't have the extra money.

Everyone was on the horns of a dilemma.

Hibbing, Minnesota:

Many people hold down two jobs to make ends meet. But Jim Steele is unique. He's the town's deputy tax assessor and also a grave-digger.

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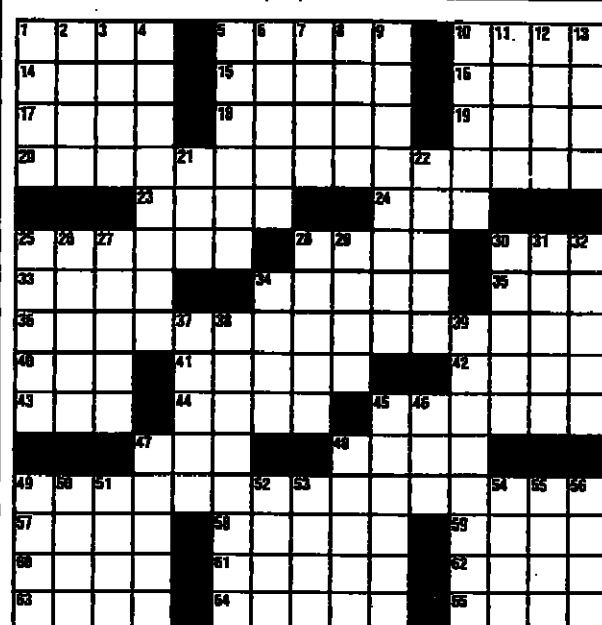
"I'll see everyone in town," he said, "Sooner or later."

London, England:

When Prince William, the infant son of Prince Charles and Princess Diana, took his first wobbly steps, the weekly tabloid News of the World ran a story about it. The newspaper said that neither of the youngster's parents was present for the event, which was described as the "Prince's staggering achievement."

Excerpted from Kickers: All the News That Didn't Fit by John Bohannon, Ballantine Books, 1988, \$3.50.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Type of nail
 - White poplar
 - Invites
 - Row
 - Source of rubber
 - Composition for two
 - Auricular
 - Set — (snare)
 - Bill of fare
 - On a lower plane
 - Deer
 - Take a chair
 - M-1 rifle
 - Water, in Madrid
 - Part of a play
 - Adjoin
 - Like some skirts
 - Numerical prefix
 - Ailing
 - Comedian Sparks
 - Adjectival suffix
 - Famous diamond
 - Attempt
 - Sell
 - Stopped
 - Pod vegetable
 - Russian inland sea
 - Absolutely intolerable
 - Important times
- DOWN**
- Spotch
 - Ceremony
 - Indigo
 - Embellish
 - Winged
 - Saunas
 - Raison d'—
 - First wife of Jacob
 - Divulgement
 - Own up to
 - Mideast canal
 - Gambling game
 - Stupely
 - Took the blue ribbon
 - Rodeo rope
 - Lean, haggard
 - Al Capp's "It" hero
 - Having a reddish color
 - Forward, leading
 - Dress
 - One of the
- Three Musketeers**
- Material
 - Ready for a feast
 - Part of the leg
 - Trampers
 - Part of the brain
 - Condiment containers
 - Sense organ
 - Fence features
 - Increased the amount
 - Most desirable
 - Put-in-Bay's lake
 - University at New Haven, Conn.
 - Iniquitous
 - Church area
 - River at Leningrad
 - Ball of yarn
 - Greek vowels

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

DRAW THE RIGHT CONCLUSION

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ Q 10 3

♥ 4

♦ A J 6 4

♣ A Q J 5 4

WEST

♠ K 7 6

♥ Q 10 6 2

♦ 9 5

♣ 8 6 3

EAST

♠ 8 4

♥ J 9 3

♦ K 8 7 3 2

♣ 10 9 2

SOUTH

♠ A J 9 5 2

♥ A 8 7 5

♦ Q 10

♣ K 7

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥ Pass

3 NT Pass 4 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of ♠

Bridge is a logical game. If you can draw the right conclusion from a particular play, it will usually point you in the winning direction.

South judged his hand well. His partner's bidding virtually blueprinted the fact that North held a singleton heart. Therefore, South's honor cards in his partner's suits greatly increased the value of his hand, so he elected to gamble out a small slam in spades.

West also realized that dummy was going to be short in hearts, so he led a trump to cut down the enemy ruffing power. The table's queen won the first trick, and declarer con-

tinued by running the ten. West grabbed the king and shot back another trump, and declarer found he had only 11 tricks. He tried the diamond finesse—to no avail.

Had declarer assumed that West was unlikely to have led a singleton trump, he could have guaranteed the contract as soon as East followed to the second trick. The location of the king was unimportant. Declarer should have risen with the ace and, leaving the king outstanding, started on the clubs. As long as that suit is no worse than 4-2, the contract is safe. On the third club declarer discards a diamond, and he is in control. West can score his master trump whenever he pleases, but thanks to a heart ruff in dummy declarer will score 10 tricks in the black suits and the two red aces.

What's up now?!"

"It's the one who never let's you get a word in, dear."

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SLAW DAWN SWISH

PAGE EDIT TITLE

APED PENT ANCON

DINGDONG TIGHTS

ENTERS SPEND

SUIT ENSIGNS

BAR STRESS NAIL

ADORE IRE AGILE

BALL PORTAL NEW

AMENDED ABEL

GENES SCARIES

STALLS TICKTOCK

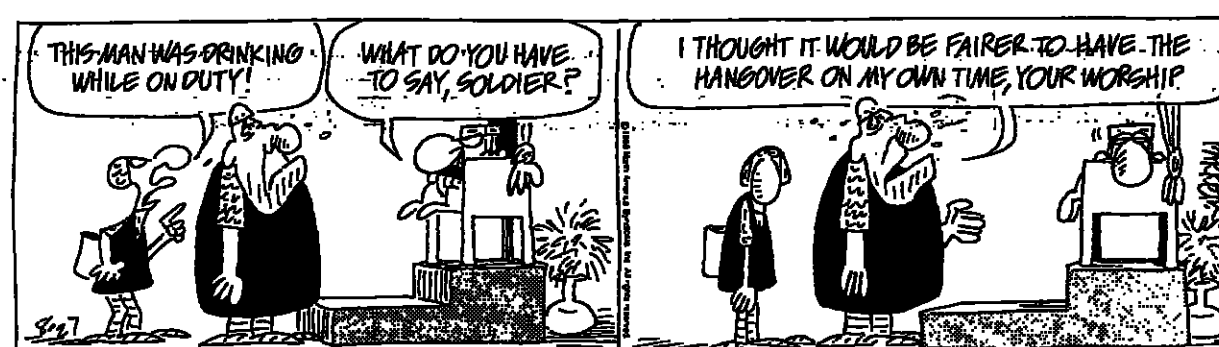
AERIE TACO HULLA

STINT IRON ETAT

HEDGE PEND REITE

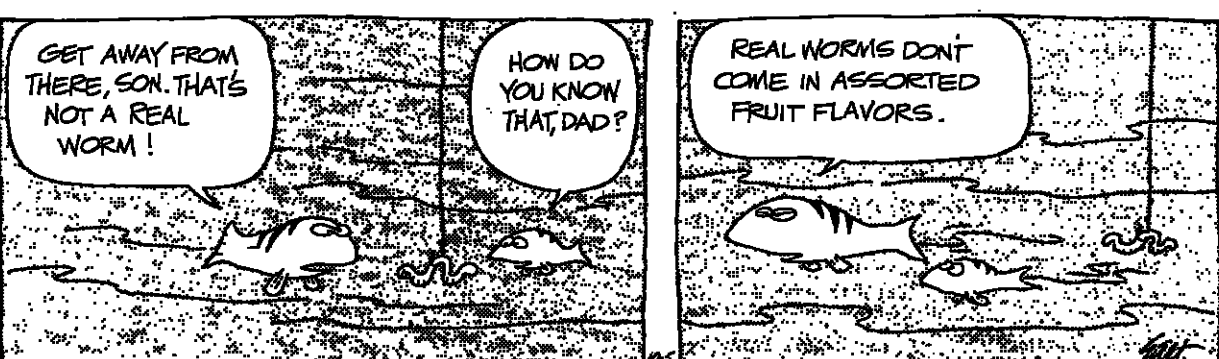
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should not insist that you are absolutely right and others absolutely wrong. You will be better able to accept things as they are. Listen to what others are saying. Be lenient.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should take slightly better care of your health. Ensure that you do not just hope for the best; watch out for mistakes. Attend first to what is important. Be polite.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

This is going to be an interesting and rewarding day for you. You will be able to eliminate a number of possibilities. Avoid thinking others know less in all respects than you. Be more tolerant.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

The prospects are good but you must not take things too much for granted. Make sure you show your appreciation of a friend who has done you a favour. Do not get into an argument. Be resolute.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will have to keep a tighter control over your expenditure. You should not allow some relatively trivial matter to take up too much of your time. Do not let others get on your nerves. Be gracious.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

The prospects are good but you must watch a tendency to say the first thing that comes to mind. You will have to exercise a little more care and should not believe all you hear. Do not expect children to behave like adults. Be generous.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Venus' better influence will help you to keep things in their proper proportion. You are all too liable to miss an important detail. Give others the benefit of the doubt. Be less suspicious.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should make sure you keep your wits very much about you. You have good reason to be proud of yourself but none to be complacent. Give your partner no reason to feel neglected or slighted. Be courteous.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have to make a greater effort if you really want to learn. Jupiter's better influence will enable you to do your best. You will be able to deal with an annoying matter. Be attentive.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will have to avoid allowing a nervous person to make you nervous. You will tend to lose your patience rather too easily. Concentrate on doing one thing at a time. Be objective.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should not try to leave until later something you know well should be done now. Make sure you do not make matters more complicated. You will find it easier to make the best of things. Be observant.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Today you will be rather easily distracted and should do your best not to permit it. You should make sure you do not do anything injurious to your health. Try not to get things out of proportion. Be reliable.

The Art Buchwald Column

Sound bites

represent the United States at Emperor Hirohito's funeral.

"Mike Dukakis doesn't just have a stiff upper lip — he's stiff all over."

"Bentsen is the sole candidate in this election who keeps showing up on the sides of milk cartons as a missing person."

"I wish the ticket was Quayle and Bentsen. That way I would have no problem deciding which one I wanted to debate Raisa Gorbachev."

"People should get off George Bush's back because his friend Noriega didn't go to Vietnam."

Anyone who served in the Panama National Guard was no draft dodger."

"I think if Bush becomes President and pardons Ollie North, he should also pardon the person who came up with the idea of naming Dan Quayle as his running mate."

"Each time Dukakis comes up with a health-care

plan, the deficit gets sick."

Somebody told me that if Dan Quayle is elected, he's going to make it possible for every man and woman in this country to get into law school — on a minority programme."

"The reason you haven't heard from Bentsen is that he's been driving cattle across Texas from Amarillo to Houston."

"The only purpose in giving money to your party is so that it will be used to buy dirty, sleazy commercials to educate the American people."

"I'd rather have Dan Quayle's finger on the nuclear button than a lot of the teenage kids in our neighbourhood."

"My brother is a podiatrist, and he says that the reason Dukakis doesn't smile when he is sitting down is because his feet won't touch the floor."

"If Bentsen ever got a sound bite on the evening news, he wouldn't know

what to do with it."

"I'm sick and tired of jokes about Bush and Pearl Harbour. Bush was trying to say that what makes this country great is the fact we can observe a day of infamy any time we want to."

"I heard that Betsy Ross burned three American flags before she got it right."

BUSINESS & FINANCE

US, UK voice concern

Banks rush to finance Gorbachev reform

LONDON, Oct 26, (Reuters): European banks are lining up a \$6 billion credit spree for the Soviet Union but the United States and Britain are voicing concern they may be making life too easy for Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

As Western leaders including Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany beat a path to Moscow, bankers are seeking to break into a huge untapped market and push Western Europe's financial frontiers further east.

Depressed

But Washington has hoisted a warning signal and British leaders have moved to counter criticism that taxpayers' money will be used to finance Gorbachev's 'perestroika' or reform.

Mrs Thatcher sees Gorbachev as the sort of man she can do business with but she does not want to subsidise him, said

Peter Duncan, a specialist of Soviet affairs at the University of London. "There is a feeling the West Germans are going too far too fast."

With the economy starved of foreign currency by depressed world prices of key exports such as oil and gas, Gorbachev is looking increasingly to the West for credit to finance a huge modernisation programme for industry.

European banks, seeking a new outlet for lending, have been rushing to finance an export drive to the Soviet Union, safe in the knowledge that most of their credit will be backed by guarantee schemes run by their own governments.

The volume of credit lines now being negotiated or already signed totals the \$6 billion level.

The West German banks, led by the biggest, Deutsche Bank, formally signed a three billion mark or \$1.65 billion deal in the Kremlin yesterday. A large

entourage of bankers and industrialists accompanied Kohl to Moscow.

French banks are sounding out the possibility of a \$2 billion credit line, with Credit Lyonnais chairman Jean-Yves Haberer due to fly to Moscow on November 10.

Italy earlier this month signed an export credit deal worth about \$775 million to finance imports of machinery for consumer goods production.

British banks are negotiating a £1 billion (\$1.75 billion) line of credit but appear to be somewhat more guarded, issuing a statement last week confirming "their willingness in principle" to provide finance.

Criticism

The strongest criticism has come from the United States, worried that a rush of credits will allow Moscow to modernise industry and maintain heavy defence spending at the same

time. Concern also surrounds the transfer of European high technology.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said last Friday that Washington strongly opposed subsidised lending to Moscow.

Reform

But he sought to avoid any rift with NATO allies in Europe by saying: "The United States does not oppose commercial lending at market rates aimed at supporting expansion on non-strategic trade with the Soviet Union."

The British press expressed similar sentiments this week as the scale of the proposed British credit line emerged.

The tabloid Daily Mail, a staunch supporter of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, wrote in an editorial: "Most people in the West wish Mr Gorbachev well in his plans for reform. But there is no earthly reason why we should finance them."

Reacting to criticism in the British press against a 'Marshall plan' type of programme to help Gorbachev's drive for economic reform, Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe spelt out the British position yesterday.

"We are not in the business of giving money away to the Soviet economy...," he told the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). "We are not rushing in, pouring money down their throats, but seeking good business opportunities at the same time as pressing them to change their system which is intolerable."

Dilemma

For banks, the dilemma is simple — either they move into Soviet business or risk being left behind in an economy of 280 million people that could offer enormous chances.

"Banks have been encouraged by the new dialogue between Moscow and European

capitals," said Hans Heino Kopietz, political analyst at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

"Suddenly they see the prospect of widespread privatisation, even credit card business. They feel in the long-run it is a good risk even if there are political setbacks."

The impact of Gorbachev's reforms is already showing in the statistics. According to the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements, the Soviet Union's debt to Western banks rose to \$34.1 billion at the end of March this year from \$28.9 billion a year ago and \$16.1 billion three years ago.

Kopietz said banks could look forward to strong business as Soviet citizens develop a taste for Western consumer goods, but added that politicians would be sorely disappointed if they expected immediate political concessions from Gorbachev.

Economist warns of imbalance towards heavy industry

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, Oct 26, (AP): A leading Czechoslovak economist has warned that continued massive growth in the nation's outmoded heavy industries will prevent the rise of a normally functioning market and strangle economic reform before it starts.

Writing in the Oct 21 issue of the weekly Hospodarsky Noviny (Economic News), Valtr Komarek said Czechoslovakia's economy shows "structural and global imbalance and permanent deficit" in both consumer and industrial markets.

Komarek, who heads the forecasting department of Czechoslovakia's Academy of Sciences, described current plans for new construction of nuclear and other power plants, chemical and metallurgical plants as "gigantic for a small country."

Before World War II, Czechoslovakia ranked 10th among the world's industrial nations. But the wealth was built more on craft industries such as shoe manufacture and glassware than on the heavy industry that has been emphasised under communist rule.

In 1985, according to Western estimates, Czechoslovakia had 867 enterprises with an average labour force of 3,300 each. By contrast, neighbouring Austria had 9,115 industrial enterprises with an average workforce of about 60 workers each.

Plans Komarek said current plans for the construction of heavy industrial plants and power facilities would swallow about two-thirds of industrial investments in the coming years.

Czechoslovakia's industry is sorely in need of modernisation, as the country's growth has slowed to around two per cent a year.

Komarek said it "will be impossible to achieve an economic balance and a new, decisive status for the consumer" if industrial investment proceeds as planned.

"If the hypertrophy of heavy industry is not relatively quickly and drastically broken, it will not be possible to achieve the normal functioning of the market and the development of reforms will be hamstringing from the start," he said.

Personal spending on the rise

US economic growth slows to 2.2pc in third quarter

WASHINGTON, Oct 26, (UPI): The US economy slammed on the brakes in the third quarter with total economic growth dropping to 2.2 per cent because of slower exports and drought-related farm losses, the Commerce Department said today.

Real Gross National Product, the nation's total output of goods and services, increased \$22.1 billion in the third quarter, a 2.2 per cent increase that was the lowest since a 1.4 per cent increase in the fourth quarter of 1986, the department said.

Most economists had predicted the advance report would show the economic growth curve began to flatten out during the third quarter, but not so abruptly.

The forecasts called for increases between 2.5 per cent and 3.2 per cent after jumps of 3.4 per cent and 3 per cent in the first and second quarters, respectively.

Inflation also ticked down a notch in the third quarter, the department's Bureau of Economic Analysis said. The deflator, which measures the composition of GNP as well as price changes, fell from 5.5 per cent to 4.4 per cent.

Lawrence Chimere, chief economist for the Wells group of forecasters in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania, was one of those predicting a 3 per cent growth rate during the July-to-September period.

"If we're right, that will be the biggest number we're going to get for quite some time," Chimere said yesterday. "It doesn't fully reflect how much of a slowdown we're starting to see in the economy."

The administration set a modest 3 per cent overall rate for the entire year, which means GNP would have to grow 3.4 per cent in the fourth quarter to meet the goal, the department said.

Next year, the administration and most economists expect even slower growth.

Losses in crop and livestock output from this year's drought reduced third-quarter GNP by about 0.6 percentage point and reduced the second-quarter increase by about 0.9 percentage point, the bureau said.

Drought losses for the entire year are expected to total \$13 billion in constant 1982, the bureau said.

Real net exports, which had spurred economic growth earlier this year, dipped \$2.3 billion in the third quarter after an increase of \$16.4 billion in the second. While actual exports increased, rapidly rising imports resulted in the net loss.

The federal government also pumped \$5.5 billion less money into the economy in the third quarter, after a \$3.8 billion increase in the second, clipping GNP, the bureau said. State and

local governments spending grew, but less rapidly than in the second quarter.

On the other hand, personal spending and both residential and non-residential investment increased in the third quarter, adding to GNP, the department said.

Businesses added \$33.8 billion to their inventories in the third quarter, but that was less than in both the first and second quarters.

The economy has seen signals of more subdued growth within the last month, especially in the manufacturing sector that has spurred growth all year.

Factory operating rates eased down 0.2 percentage points in September as utilities cut production with the return of cooler weather. Orders for big-ticket factory items also fell in September, and consumer spending, housing and construction all appear weak.

Indonesia and Malaysia earn high marks for investment

SEOUL, Oct 26, (OPECNA): An economic survey released here today described OPEC member Indonesia and its neighbour Malaysia as the "most appropriate" countries in the ASEAN region for South Korean investment.

ASEAN is the Association of Southeast Asian Nations with Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines as members.

The study, prepared by the Federation of Korean Industries, said that Indonesia and Malaysia had the best conditions for foreign investment.

Study

The findings of the study were based on the results of a survey of the investment environment in four ASEAN countries, covering political stability, economic potential, overseas economic relations and foreign exchange regulations.

Sudan denies IMF behind new two-tier exchange system

KHARTOUM, Oct 26, (Reuters): A new two-tier foreign exchange system went into effect in Sudan today, with the government denying it was a move to placate the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Bankers said the system could lead to price rises and unrest.

New rates of 11.40 pounds to the dollar selling and 11.50 pounds buying which took effect for most bank transactions represented a 60 per cent devaluation from an official rate of 4.45 pounds.

The pound was devalued by 40 per cent in October last year in line with an agreement with the IMF on economic reforms which led to protests in which at least six people were killed and scores injured.

The government has maintained since then that it would not adjust the currency to meet IMF demands and in announcing the new exchange rates it refrained from calling them a devaluation.

A senior official denied today that the IMF, which is hated by Sudan's poor majority, was behind the latest changes.

Minister of State for Finance

Al-Tigani Al Tayeb told the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) the IMF opposed the new two-tier system and Khartoum acted in line with its own recovery programme.

He said the changes aimed at squeezing the black market out of business.

Khartoum bankers said it was too early to say exactly how the foreign currency black market would react to the government move and reported a virtual freeze in activity.

But they predicted the pound, which on the eve of the announcement was trading at 11.30 to the dollar on the black market, could rise to 15 in a week after dealers got over the shock.

In turn, the higher rates would trigger a rapid increase in prices that might fuel more popular unrest, the bankers said.

One of the world's poorest nations, Sudan has a foreign debt of more than \$12 billion and is some \$1 billion in arrears on its debts to the IMF. It was declared ineligible for fresh credits in 1986.

An IMF team is due in Khartoum next week to assess Sudan's economic performance. The

government hopes the fund will approve its policies so it can reschedule foreign debt payments and win fresh credits.

Sudan agreed with the fund last year on a package of economic reforms but talks broke down when Khartoum refused to devalue the pound further, a move sought by the IMF.

Battered by a civil war in the south since 1983, Sudan was further weakened this year by floods and an invasion of locusts.

Finance Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem said the new exchange rates would help lure remittances from the estimated one million Sudanese abroad into the official sector and out of the black market.

The official exchange rate remains in use for imported basic commodities, air fares and students abroad. The new rates are set daily by a committee guided by the dollar's value in New York.

The two-tier system will allow exporters to change 30 per cent of their earnings at the new rates, the Central Bank said.

Exporters previously had to exchange all their earnings at the official rate, prompting them to smuggle crops abroad.

Japanese firms rush to sell 'no film' cameras

TOKYO, Oct 26, (Reuters): Japanese electronics and optical companies are scrambling to sell still video cameras — a new breed that needs no film, no darkroom and little patience, company spokesmen said.

The cameras use floppy discs instead of film, and pictures can be instantly played back onto a television or a special printer.

Industry analysts expect these 'no film' models will one day usurp the position of the single lens reflex camera as the serious photographer's favourite.

"Instant gratification — that's what it's called," said Darryl Whitten, vice-president of Prudential-Bache Securities in Tokyo.

pictures were inferior, analysts said.

The picture quality has not improved much, they said, but ruthless cost-cutting by some companies such as Sony and Canon has brought it to the shops.

Sony's is the cheapest model, costing 69,800 yen (\$541) for the camera and 30,000 yen (\$232) for a play-back machine. It will be launched in December in Japan, next spring in the United States, and next summer in Europe, a spokesman said.

Prices

Spokesmen for Sony and other companies said the US price for their cameras would be set independently and not be a direct conversion of the Japanese price. Canon's version — in which the player is incorporated into the camera — costs 98,000 yen (\$759) plus 20,000 yen (\$155) for accessories.

Those prices could lure a few buyers, but would probably need to be slashed by almost a half before the cameras attract a wide following, analysts said.

"The prices need to come down much more and the picture resolution needs to be brought

much nearer to that of film pictures," said Naoki Sato, electronics analyst at Schroder Securities (Japan).

"If the companies can resolve these problems, then the market will explode," Sato said. "But I think we will have to wait two or three years."

"Eventually, the still video market could be the size of the single lens reflex market," said Prudential-Bache's Whitten.

A single lens reflex (SLR) camera, preferred by serious photographers partly because of its ability to carry a number of interchangeable, high-quality lenses, costs about 60,000 yen (\$465) at the cheaper end of the scale in Japan.

Sales of SLRs have been declining. In the year ended March 31, 1988, a total of 4.16 million were sold here, compared with 7.5 million in the year to March 31, 1982.

Nevertheless, they are big business for companies such as Nikon and Minolta where cameras accounted for about 44 per cent and 51 per cent of total sales during the 1987 year.

Analysts said Nikon leads in still video technology and some

photojournalists in Japan use their system. But the camera alone costs 450,000 yen (\$3,488).

Konica and Casio have both decided to make 5,000 still video cameras a month. Their models cost roughly 130,000 yen (\$1,000) with the players included, spokesmen for the companies said.

Minolta has engineered a system costing 198,000 yen (\$1,500). Fuji Photo Film and Matsushita Electrical Industrial have also brought out similarly priced models.

Demand

A Canon spokesman predicted total annual Japanese demand for still video cameras at two million in two years, rising to more than four million in four or five years.

Analysts said that although the 'no film' cameras will erode the SLR market, some coexistence is possible.

How quickly the SLR fades from view will depend on how fast picture printers for the floppy disc films can produce results as good as the darkroom, said an analyst at Jardine Fleming (Securities) in Tokyo.

World Business Summary

Ford posts record profit for third quarter

DFARBORN, Mich., Oct 26, (Reuters): Ford Motor Company today reported a third-quarter profit of \$865 million, the most ever for a US car maker in the July-September period. It was Ford's 10th record quarter in a row. Net income was up sharply from the \$703 million of last year. Revenues rose to \$17.7 billion from 15.2 billion. Ford, first of the big three US car makers to report financial results for the quarter, said it earned \$1.78 per share, compared with \$1.38 a year earlier. The performance fell short of an all-time quarterly record, set by Ford in the second quarter of 1988 when it earned \$3.43 per share, or \$1.66 billion. Ford's earnings gain was driven by a strong performance in overseas operations. Outside the United States, Ford said its earnings jumped to \$384 million from 110 million in the same period last year, fuelled by improvements in Latin America, Europe and Canada. Its US earnings dropped to \$472 million from 593 million. While it gained higher car and truck market shares, other factors in the US operation hurt results. Earnings were lower at Ford's financial services group, costs rose for developing and introducing new products, and production capacity fell due to an assembly plant changeover to build the restyled Ford Thunderbird and Mercury Cougar. Ford chairman Donald Petersen said the car maker expected the introduction of these new products in the fourth quarter to strengthen its North American line of cars and trucks. Ford said its share of the US car market in the third quarter was 21.3 per cent, up 0.9 point from a year ago. Its truck share was 28.9 per cent, a one-point rise. Ford said its cash position at the end of the third quarter stood at \$9.3 billion, down from 10.2 billion at the beginning of the period. The drop was due mainly to increased capital expenditures.

Shell earnings slump

HOUSTON, Texas, Oct 26, (AP): Shell Oil Co. said yesterday its third quarter earnings dropped 16 per cent from the same period a year ago because of lower crude oil prices. For the three months ending Sept 20, Shell posted a net income of \$352 million, a decrease from the 420 million recorded during the same quarter in 1987. Revenues were \$5.4 billion for the third quarter, down from 5.7 billion marked for the same period last year. Shell does not release pre-share figures because the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell based in the Netherlands. "For the quarter, the earnings decrease mainly reflected lower crude oil prices, which more than offset the benefits of strong performances in our oil and chemical products businesses. Record performances by those downstream businesses were the major factors contributing to the nine-month earnings improvement," Shell president Frank H. Richardson said. For the nine months of 1988, Shell recorded earnings of \$1.8 billion, including a one-time positive adjustment of \$900 million as a result of adopting a new accounting method on income taxes in the first quarter. Excluding this adjustment, the nine-month income from operations was 961 million, a 21 per cent increase from the 795 million recorded during the nine-month period in 1987. Revenues for the first nine months in 1988 were \$16 billion, a 4.6 per cent increase from the 15.3 billion in 1987. Richardson said oil and gas exploration and production earnings for the quarter were \$22 million, a 92 per cent decrease from the same 1987 period. Nine-month income from operations was 222 million, a 58 per cent decrease from last year.

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Circle 94, EN 88

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

14/7	15/0	SERV CORP	18/3	18/3
2/0	1/7	SA STH PAC	18/5	18/5
56/6	56/6	SHRSN MWT	22/3	22/3
24/1	24/1	SHELL TRAN	69/4	69/6
14/7	14/7	SHER PLOU	58/4	57/6
28/1	28/0	SMITH INT	7/7	7/7
35/3	35/2	SMITHK BEC	46/7	46/6
34/3	34/3	SNAP ON TL	37/1	37/1
0	60/4	SOURCE CAP	37/5	37/7
0	78/0	SOUTHERN	22/4	22/4
10/1	10/2	SPAIN FUND	9/6	9/6
31/4	31/2	SPERRY	10/6	10/6
6/0	6/3	SQUARE D	49/6	50/0
12/4	12/4	STQB8		
9/2	9/1	STONE CONT	35/0	34/6
33/1	33/0	SUN CO	0	56/1
46/2	46/3	SUNSTRAND	53/2	53/3
40/5	40/5	SUNSH MIN	3/5	3/5
45/2	45/0	SUPER VAL	24/6	25/0
1/0	1/0	SOUTHWEST	19/1	19/0
26/3	26/2	SW GAS	21/1	21/1
13/7	13/7	SUN BELL	41/6	41/6
31/1	31/0	TANDY CORP	43/0	42/6
19/0	19/0	TDK	62/4	62/6
13/6	13/6	TECO EMERG	24/2	24/4
48/0	47/7	TEKTRONIX	21/1	21/1
8/1	8/1	TELEDYNE	328/1	328/3
14/7	14/7	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
17/6	17/6	TERABYNE	14/0	14/0
2/5	2/5	TESORO PET	11/1	11/2
26/5	26/4	TEX AMER B	*13	*13
16/0	16/1	TEX EAS TR	29/2	29/1
3/7	3/7	TEXACO	45/1	44/7
28/0	28/0	TEXAS IND	32/4	32/4
0	4/4	TEXAS INST	39/3	39/2
0	0	TEXTRON	25/3	25/4
0	90/0	THOMPS MED	22/0	22/0
23/2	23/2	TIDWATER	6/6	6/6
87/3	86/7	TIGER INT	13/5	13/5
73/5	73/5	TIMKEN	30/2	30/3
19/3	19/5	TORCHMARK	31/7	32/0
42/5	42/5	TOSCO	3/2	3/3
59/2	59/0	TOYS R US	38/3	38/3
47/4	47/6	TRANSAMER	34/4	34/4
95/6	95/6	TRANSCO EN	32/5	32/5
21/0	20/3	TRANSCO EX	6/1	6/1
59/3	59/3	TRAVELLERS	35/6	35/6
16/5	17/5	TRINITY IN	31/4	31/4
45/0	45/0	TYCO CORP	25/7	25/5
15/5	15/4	TYCO LABS	36/6	36/4
37/1	37/4	UAL CORP	98/0	98/1
21/4	21/4	UTO BRAND	19/3	18/5
14/0	14/0	UTO TECH	42/4	42/2
33/1	33/2	UNILEVER	60/4	59/7
29/0	29/0	UNION CAMP	34/7	34/7
83/3	83/2	UNION CARB	27/1	26/7
19/0	19/0	US SHOE	26/0	26/0
8/5	8/6	USX CP	28/4	28/4
58/3	58/2	US WEST	57/2	57/3
19/7	19/7	US AIR CP	37/1	37/2
106/6	107/1	VALERO EN	8/3	8/3
		VALLEY IND	2/2	2/2

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY REUTERS FINANCIAL SERVICES

AMMAN

AMMAN				
	OPNG	CLSE		
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY			JOR LEASING CORP.	0.58 0.57
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.			JOR LIN BRICK	
ARAB BANK			JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50 0.50
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER			JOR NATIONAL BANK	
ARAB FINANCE CORP.			JOR PAPER C&BDRG	
ARAB INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.90 2.93
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.98	0.98	JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.32 1.32
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.90	0.99	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00 2.15
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.58	0.58	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.10	2.10	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	
ARAB PAPER CO./TRD	0.35	0.32	JOR SECURITY CORP	0.75 0.73
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.			JOR SELPHO CHEM.	
			JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	
			JOR WORSTED MLL	4.60 4.60
			JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00 0.93
			JOR. PETROLIUM REF	
			JOR. FRENCH TUR	

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Oct 26, (KUNA): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	6-9/16	7-1/16
3 months	6-7/16	6-15/16
6 months	6-3/8	6-7/8
1 year	6-3/8	6-7/8

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				BC-A	65.00	67.50	
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	.43	.44	.44
AC-A	2.30	9.40	9.30	LC-B	.44	.45	.44
ANS	2.30	2.32	2.34	PX-A	.32	.33	.32
GLO	31.00	31.50	31.00	LC-B	.32	.33	.33
PLOT	215.00	216.00	217.00	OIL SECTOR			
KPSI-A	2.00			BP-A	.012	.013	.012
KPSI-B	2.00			BP-B	.012	.013	.012
SNC-A	140.00	141.00	140.00	LRC-A		.0032	
SNC-B		236.00	235.00	LRC-B		.0034	
MINING SECTOR				OPW-A	.024	.025	.024
APX-A	.025	.026	.027	OPW-B	.024	.025	.025
APX-B	.025	.026	.027	OW-A	.025	.026	.027
AT-A	21.25	21.50	22.00	OW-B	.026	.027	.026

AL INFORMATION				
	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
IND.	285,040	5,694,630	860.77	2.81 DN
	369,120,400	24,721,275	4,218.39	28.3 DN
	287,250,000	3,510,750	4.473	0.22 DN
	646,665,440	33,926,655	713.53	11.94 DN

AL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR									
SELL			OPEN			DC-A		68.50	
140.00	141.00	140.00			DC-B	85.00			
225.00	236.00	235.00			LC-A	.43	.44	.44	
312.00	34.50				LC-B	.44	.45	.44	
216.00	217.00	218.00			ZIP	.009	.0095	.009	
2.28	2.30	2.36	OIL SECTOR						
9.30	9.40	9.30	STOCK		BUY	SELL	OPEN		
31.00	31.50	31.50	BP-A		.012	.013	.012		
2.34	2.38		BP-B		.012	.013	.013		
2.55	2.60	2.55	LRC-A		.0028	.0032			
	SELL		LRC-B		.0028	.0036			
BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPW-A		.024	.025	.025		
.025	.026	.027	OPW-B		.025	.026	.027		
.025	.026	.027	OV-A		.025	.026	.027		
21.00	21.25	22.00	TA		.026	.027	.028		
	25.00		WB		.018	.019	.019		

SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
....655,405	4,129,365	864.57	DN 5.89
115,294,300	7,472,985	4,140.68	DN 72.60
191,800,000	3,119,500	4.828	DN .188
307,749,705	14,721,850	726.62	DN 13.72

LAST PR	CL	F A C B	28.5	L. K. TAN	60
		F E SHIP	221	L. K. NGAN <td>88 </td>	88
113	113	FEB ORD	670	LARUT TONG <td>80 </td>	80
65.5	65.5	FEB CABLE	665	LEONG TAT	80
		FEB FLOUR	560	LUN CORP	168
137	137	FINA HDG	248	LUN CHANG	153
		FINA JETEC	656	M AICA BH	160
356	356	G KENT	72	M BREW	1110
		G LUMBER	101	M CEMENT	105
130	131	G TOWN	110	M COINT	108
		G U HDGS	102	M FEEDMIL	34
252	250	GAUNDA HDG	31	M TIN PRT	57
535	535	GUINNESS	308	M SHITA	605
320	314	GULA	285	M WATA	55
590	580	H L IND.	162	MALEX IND	380
265	270	HARINAU	91	METRO	745
89.5	88.5	H INCHE	164	MTC BHD	328
		H INCMAPE	530	MAELASTPR	CL
376	378	HMO-PAC	249	MRAF B	35
476	476	HMOVSEAT	106	PEGI	33.5
43	42	INSAS	32	PERLIS	476
		INT WOOD	76	QAF LIMIT	41
		INTRACO	285	R D C	145
450	103	ISETAN	680	RALEIGH	76.5
---	29	J CEMENT	80	ROBINSON	261
	49	J ENGRG	260	ROTH IND	214
161	161	J SHYPARD	324	ROTHMAN M	720
364	364	JACKS LTD	138	S BUS	370
		K G HDGS	125	S PACIFIC	322
350	350	L & H GRP	104	SIA	1190

SINGAPORE STOCKS CLOSE GENERALLY HIGHER
SINGAPORE, OCT 26, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED GENERALLY HIGHER ON SELECTIVE INSTITUTIONAL BUYING SUPPORT AND BARGAIN HUNTING IN MODERATE TRADING, BROKERS SAID.

THEY SAID THE IMPROVED SENTIMENT WAS INSPIRED BY A FIRMER TOKYO STOCK MARKET AND EXPECTATIONS OF GOOD CORPORATE RESULTS.

THE STRAITS TIMES INDUSTRIAL INDEX ROSE 6.53 TO 1,043.22. RISES OUTPACED FALLS BY 102 TO 38. TURNOVER ROSE TO 25.2 MLN SHARES FROM TUESDAY'S 17.7 MLN.

DEALERS SAID PRICES WERE SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN THE MORNING AND BUYING SUPPORT INTENSIFIED IN THE AFTERNOON.

Currency rates

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.27974	0.28126
Sterling	0.49032	0.49328
D. mark	0.15630	0.15725
S. franc	0.18420	0.18534
F. franc	0.04574	0.04602
It. lire	0.0002097	0.0002111
Jap. yen	0.0022056	0.0022194
Bah. din.	0.74201	0.74625
UAE Dh.	0.07615	0.07659
S. riyal	0.07655	0.07498
Q. riyal	0.07681	0.07731
C. riyal	0.72690	0.73084

KUWAIT, Oct. 26. (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates maintained a week-long firming trend today as banks continued to buy dollars, seeing strength in the US currency.

Reports the Central Bank had stopped paying against promissory notes also helped to firm rates, dealers said.

Month-end salary payments were immediately absorbed and failed to ease tight liquidity, they added.

Overnight funds, which traded yesterday at up to six per cent, shot up to 10 per cent while tomorrow-next dealt as high as eight per cent from yesterday's 7-1/2, 6-1/2 per cent.

Quiet
The fixed periods were quiet and little changed from yesterday at a uniform seven, 6-1/2 per cent. Dealers said banks were reluctant to trade in the longer periods in order to stabilise year-end balance sheets.

The Central Bank dinar exchange rate was a shade firmer at 0.28045/55 from yesterday's 0.28058/68. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.28050/60.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal inter-bank deposits continued to ease today in the wake of active lending at the short end of the market by some major Kingdom players.

Dealers said fixed period rates declined by up to 1/8 of a point after some banks lent large amounts of one and two-month funds. But they said overall business was relatively thin, continuing a trend seen during the past few days.

Liquid

The market has remained liquid despite anticipation of massive drain on liquidity brought on by an estimated five billion riyals (\$1.3 billion) worth of pension fund repayments due to expatriates from the Saudi government.

Dealers said the payments from the General Organisation of Social Insurance were taking place more slowly than expected. They said most banks were maintaining long dollar positions to cover themselves against a possible rival devaluation.

Many expect the Saudi government to devalue the riyal to boost the value of its dollar-denominated oil revenues — particularly in light of recent falls in crude prices.

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STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
H TUNNEL	15.40	15.40
HEUNG K	7.50	7.45
MINHA GAS	16.70	16.60
MINHA R	16.50	16.70
MINHA NTR	24.20	23.80
PHONG PHAC	3.20	3.10
PHONG PHAC	.48	.47
PR EAST C	.76	.75
PR ORIENT	0	44.00
C DEVELOP	9.20	9.00
S INDEX	610.62	584.53
ANG LONG	5.40	5.35
ANG SENG	27.80	27.70
AM PAR BR	9.70	9.70
K ELEC CO	7.05	7.00
K KOMLOON	8.20	8.15
K LAUD CO	8.35	8.35
K SHAN BK	6.40	6.30
K SHAN HT	5.60	5.60
K TELE CO	5.30	5.20
KUTCH MAN	8.55	8.45
HOE PAC	10.30	10.20
INDUSTRIE H	13.90	13.70
INDOCHON M	8.60	8.45
INDO WORLD	12.00	11.90
IND VJ CON	2.40	2.40
INDUSTRIAL DEV	6.85	6.85
I N K CO	1.98	1.98
I N K PROP	11.50	11.40
INE DARGY	2.10	2.10
TELUX PAC	2.70	2.72
TELUX MFG	18.20	17.90
V B CO	14.20	14.10
AI CHEUNG	3.20	3.90
ATION BANK	1.55	1.52
LOCK HARD	0	7.25
LOCK HARI	0	1.15
INTL	3.87	3.87

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE HIGHER IN HEAVY TURNOVER
TOKYO, OCT 26, REUTER - SHARE PRICES ENDED THE DAY ON A HIGH NOTE IN HEAVY TURNOVER AS INVESTORS TURNED MORE CONFIDENT IN THE MARKET, BROKERS SAID.
"OIL PRICES ARE GENERALLY WEAKER, JAPANESE SHORT-TERM INTEREST RATES ARE FALLING AND THE YEN IS STRONG. THE MARKET ROSE ON THESE TRIPLE WEIGHS," SAID TADAOKI UEMURA, DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER AT WAKO SECURITIES CO LTD.
THE NIKKEI INDEX ROSE 199.11 POINTS, OR 0.73 PCT, TO 27,620.62, BUILDING ON TUESDAY'S 139.95-POINT GAIN. VOLUME SURGED TO 1.9 BILLION SHARES AGAINST 1.2 BILLION, THE FIRST TIME RISING NEAR THIS LEVEL SINCE JULY 15'S TWO BILLION.
THE FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, GAINED 10.02 POINTS TO 2,130.80 FOLLOWING A 5.46-POINT LOSS ON TUESDAY.
RISER LED FALLS BY ABOUT SEVEN TO FIVE.
RAILWAY/BUS, REAL ESTATE, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, COMMUNICATIONS, CAR, OIL, WAREHOUSE, ROLLING STOCK, STEEL AND SHIPBUILDING STOCKS LED THE WINNERS.
PHARMACEUTICAL, SECURITIES HOUSE, RETAIL, SERVICE, BANK, FOOD, CREDIT/LEASE, ELECTRICAL AND AIRLINE SHARES WERE AMONG THE LOSERS.
THE INDEX ROSE FROM A LOW OF 27,425.86 TO A HIGH OF 27,706.62 IN LATE AFTERNOON TRADE.
STEELS AND SHIPBUILDERS LED THE MARKET'S RISE OUT OF ITS RECENT DOLDRUMS. THESE LARGELY CAPITALISED STOCKS ARE EASY TO MOVE IN AND OUT OF AND THEREFORE GOOD TOOLS TO CHURN VOLUME.
A STRONG PUSH CAME FROM JAPAN'S BIG FOUR BROKERS, ENCOURAGING OTHER INVESTORS TO JOIN THE BANDWAGON, BROKERS SAID.
"THERE IS A LOT OF DEALER ACTIVITY AND PEOPLE ARE MORE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT NOVEMBER, SO PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO HOLD POSITIONS," SAID ONE BROKER.
TRADE FOR OCTOBER ENDS ON THURSDAY. INVESTORS TEND TO WIND DOWN THEIR TRADING AND HOLD POSITIONS AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

HONG KONG, OCT 26, REUTER - THE HANG SENG INDEX CLOSED ABOVE THE KEY CHART POINT OF 2,600 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE AUGUST 15 AS THE BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI HOTELS INTENSIFIED, BROKERS SAID.

THE INDEX CLOSED AT 2,610.62, UP FROM TUESDAY'S 2,584.53, UNHELPED BY SPECULATIVE BUYING.

TUESDAY'S 5.80 DLR A SHARE COUNTER-OFFER FOR HK HOTELS BY THE KADOBRIE FAMILY, ITS MAJOR SHAREHOLDER, WAS FOLLOWED TODAY BY A 5.80 DLR OFFER BY HOSTILE BIDDER CATRYN CITY INVESTMENTS (DOOFU: EAMU1Y: S37.2 PCT. STAGE.

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	OE BUEHR I	1215	1220
BAER HOGS	13550	13400	OE BUEHR K	311	308
BAILOISE PS	2300	2325	OE BUEHR P	294.00	290.00
BK I LEU I	2615	2605	ROCHE BAER I	1272	1275
BK LEU I N	3190	3175	ROCKE BAER K	2005	1000
BK LEU N	2825	2780	RUECKVER I	13250	13250
BK LEU PS	430	419	RUECKVER N	6350	6350
CPV	1140	1150	RUECKVER P	1965	1950
CIB GEIG I	3550	3550	RY TR BK	1175	1180
CIB GEIG N	1780	1770	S BNKGSL I	3440	3405
CIB GEIG P	2250	2235	S BNKGSL N	619	615
CDW	0	1250	S BNKGSL P	124.00	123.50
CRED SUI I	2845	2825	S BNKVN I	397	395
CRED SUI N	525	520	S BNKVN N	305.00	314.00
ES LAUFEN	775	775	S BNKVN P	312	312
ELEKTROMAT	2975	2975	SANDOZ I	12350	12300
EMS CHEN I	3840	3840	SANDOZ N	6030	6000
GLOBUS I	7700	7700	SANDOZ PS	2035	2025
GLOBUS N	0	7000	SULZER N	5000	5000
GLOBUS PS	1260	1240	SULZER PS	465	460
JACOBS S I	7775	7740	SVB	1820	1815
JACOBS S N	1350	1350	SWISSAIR I	1200	1200
JACOBS S P	630	625	SWISSAIR N	990	990
JELM	2040	2020	W THUR I	5600	5600
JELM PS	380	380	W THUR N	2825	2825
LANDIS I	1880	1470	W THUR PS	750	750
LANDIS PS	130.00	130.00	ZURICH I	5900	5950
MERCK I	815	815	ZURICH N	2800	2800
			ZURICH PS	1920	1895

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Oct. 26, (AP): Leaders of the 12 European Economic Community nations must defuse fears of their trade partners the EEC will turn protectionist under its single market project, Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos said yesterday.

Pangalos said Greece planned to seek a statement to that effect from the 12 EEC leaders, due to meet Dec 2-3 on the Greek resort island of Rhodes.

"We are not building a closed European space, what Americans call a fortress Europe," he said after presiding at a two-day EEC foreign ministers meeting.

Minister Margaret Thatcher who has argued borders must remain for security reasons. Also, she said it must not lead to a United States of Europe with powers centralised at the EEC head office in Brussels, Belgium.

Concerns

Pangalos said he doubted British concerns would make for a contentious summit. "Whether or not to set up a European government now is not on the agenda," he said.

"This is going too fast. There is no institutional problem pending. I don't think a debate on this issue will take place at the summit."

The EEC's single market plan

Fears

Japan and the United States have raised fears that the EEC's plan for a single, frontier-free Europe by 1992 will lead the EEC to cut imports so as to boost intra-EEC trade.

In 1987, the United States and Japan sold goods worth \$108.3 billion in the EEC, more than 25 per cent of all EEC imports.

The EEC summit "should clarify misunderstandings" in the United States and Japan about the EEC internal market project, Pangalos said.

The project has also raised questions from British Prime

is contained in a treaty that took effect in 1987. It also calls for greater co-operation in political and monetary matters.

Dispute

The EEC foreign minister failed to resolve a dispute over the implementation of plans to double the EEC's regional development funds to 14 billion European currency units (\$16.1 billion) by 1993.

Pangalos also said a controversial proposal to end trade preferences for Saudi Arabian petrochemicals, which amount to 20 per cent of all EEC imports of petrochemicals, remained unsolved.

Investment abroad rises

US firms gearing up to boost their overseas holdings

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Despite heated rhetoric about a foreign invasion of corporate America, US direct investment abroad is higher than foreign investment here and American companies are gearing up to increase their overseas holdings.

A recent survey by the Commerce Department showed American companies plan to spend \$42.3 billion this year and \$44.1 billion in 1989 to expand their business abroad.

Interest
"The climate is right now (to invest overseas)," said James Greene of the conference board, a private business research group in New York. "Two years ago it was not."

Foremost among the factors

contributing to renewed US interest in foreign investments is the European Economic Community's plan to create a single market by 1992. Many US companies, seeking a foothold inside Europe ahead of the planned integration, are eyeing European firms.

"They are really trying to protect their position," said Sara Johnson, senior economist with Data Resources Inc.

US firms plan to spend \$19.7 billion on investments in the 12-country Community this year and \$20 billion in 1989, after spending \$16.1 billion in 1987, according to the department's survey.

In September, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing said

it planned to buy France's Sontex SA, which makes synthetic sponges, in order to be well-positioned by 1992.

Facilities
Other companies are planning to acquire facilities and companies in Spain and Portugal, the newest EEC members, to take advantage of the cheap labour costs in those countries.

Other factors encouraging US firms to invest abroad include the gradual opening of the potentially huge Soviet, Chinese and Indian markets, Greene said.

In addition, Greene noted: "American companies cannot export much to Japan. Japan is not an export market, so companies are moving there, investing on a long-term strategy, the

same way they did in Europe in the 1960s."

The Department's survey showed American firms plan to boost capital outlays in Japan by 42 per cent, to \$1.7 billion this year, up from 1.2 billion in 1987. In 1989 they plan to spend \$2.3 billion.

Weakness
To a large extent the dollar's weakness against major currencies hampers US companies from investing more aggressively in many parts of the world.

Many economists say the White House's plan to reduce the US trade deficit by keeping the dollar low will become increasingly controversial because it is the dollar's weakness that has made possible a slew of US company

takeovers by foreigners.

In their book "Buying into America," authors Martin and Susan Tolchin say the United States is becoming dangerously over-dependent on foreign capital.

But the picture is not as bleak as some economists and politicians paint it. US direct investment abroad stood at \$309 billion last year, up from \$211.5 billion in 1984. Foreign direct investment in the United States, meanwhile, came to \$262 billion in 1987.

Assets
A few economists note that because assets are valued at their initial purchase price, US holdings — many of which were acquired in the 1960s — may be

worth far more.

Even last year, when the dollar was weak, US direct investment abroad exceeded foreign investment in the United States.

Foreign investment in the United States as well as US direct investment abroad are expected to rise as more firms pursue a strategy of creating or expanding production centres inside the target market, economists say.

Commerce Department economists say 75 per cent of last year's US investments were financed by overseas profits.

"We are no longer capital exporters," said Data Resources' Johnson, in contrast with the US role in the 1960s and again in the 1980s when the dollar was strong.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Shares closed barely steady after a lacklustre day of thin trading. The All Ordinaries index edged up 0.7 points to 1,581.5.

TOKYO: Prices ended the day on a high note in heavy turnover as investors turned more confident in the market. The Nikkei index rose 199.11, or 0.73 per cent, to 27,620.60.

HONG KONG: The Hang Seng index closed above the key chart point of 2,600 for the first time since August 15 as battle for control of Hong Kong and Shanghai hotels intensified. The index ended 26.09 points up yesterday's close at 2,610.62.

SINGAPORE: Share prices closed generally higher on selective institutional buying support and bargain hunting in moderate trading. The Straits Times industrial index rose 6.53 to 1,043.22.

BOMBAY: Share prices recovered to close mixed on fresh upcountry support. Tata Steel rose 12.5 rupees to 992.5.

FRANKFURT: Bolstered by strong foreign and domestic demand, as well as the dollar's stability, West German shares surged to new 1988 highs before slipping slightly. The Real-Time 30-share Dax index closed at 1,310.63, up 16.91 points or 1.3 per cent from the previous close.

ZURICH: Swiss shares closed slightly higher on moderate to high turnover. The All-Share Swiss index firmed at 4.5 points to 938.7.

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks showed small losses in quiet midday trading. Blue chips were regaining some of their losses. The Dow was off seven at 2166 after falling to 2157.

UK stocks mixed to firm

Dollar dips on news of slowing US boom

LONDON, Oct. 26, (Reuters): News that the US economy slowed in the summer sent the dollar skidding more than one-and-a-half West German pfennigs today to its lowest in four months.

Wall Street stocks dipped, too. A dollar sell-off followed the release of figures in Washington showing the rate of expansion of the US Gross National Product was 2.2 per cent in the July to September period after three per cent in the previous quarter.

"The figures were disappointing. The trend is down," said a currency dealer in Europe where the dollar closed at 1.7740 marks. Earlier today it fetched 1.7910.

It remains well above an all-time low at which it began the year, at 1.56 marks, but down from 1.92 touched during a powerful rally in August.

Wall Street's blue chip Dow Jones Industrial average shed almost 15 points before rallying to stand six down at 2,167 in the early New York afternoon.

Fading
Prudential Bache analyst Hildegard Zagorsky said in New York "maybe people are taking the lower-than-expected Gross National Product as a sign that

the economy is fading." She said stocks also fell because of the weak dollar.

The dollar also ended in London lower against Japan's yen, worth 125.80 after 126.65 yesterday.

Dollar buying during the rally back in August was fuelled by speculation that US interest rates would have moved higher to cool inflationary pressures in a booming economy, which would have improved the return on dollar assets.

That scenario now looks less likely.

Swiss Bank Corp currency analyst Chris Zwermann said US figures pointed to a sharp deterioration in the US trade gap.

The GNP report showed higher third-quarter imports.

Growth
Zwermann said: "The slower growth and the higher imports are definitely negative for the dollar."

New York dealers said fear of central bank intervention to prop the dollar tempered today's sell-off.

Some money flowed from the dollar into sterling which was

already supported by a pledge from Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson that he would keep British interest rates high to pinch off inflation in Britain's economy.

But worries about British trade figures due on Thursday made for caution. The pound ended weaker against the mark although, at \$1.7605, up half a cent against America's currency.

The gold price was little changed at this afternoon's London bullion market fixing of \$407.40 an ounce.

It was underpinned by slightly firmer oil prices which suggested there was still scope for inflation in the global economy. Typical North Sea Brent crude traded around \$12.50 a barrel for December loading.

Earlier in the trading day, the Tokyo and Frankfurt stock markets advanced.

Dealers
In London share prices were mixed but showing a firmer bias in very quiet late trading with investors cautious ahead of Thursday's UK September balance of payments data.

Dealers said yesterday's Referral of the Minorco bid for

Cons Gold also continued to dampen much of the speculative demand which pushed shares ahead recently.

A sharp early fall on Wall Street did little to help sentiment despite New York's later rally. The UK market was left to stagnate for the afternoon.

By 1555 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 4.1 points up at 1,851.9.

Comments from Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson in parliament yesterday that he was committed to keeping interest rates high and would not suffer a depreciation in the pound helped underpin equity prices this morning, dealers said.

Operators remain hesitant about tomorrow's balance of payments data in case the current account deficit widens significantly from the August gap of \$1.3 billion.

The market is prepared for a record, but if it is significantly greater they say the pound could fall and put fresh upward pressure on base rates.

Recovered
Cons Gold shares recovered 12p of yesterday's 105p fall to stand at 1,151 after market rumours that Minorco had sold

its near 30 per cent stake to Noranda of Canada.

Analysts said Cons Gold's strength reflected speculation that any potential bidder for Minorco's stake could possibly make an offer for Cons Gold. However, analysts are sceptical that such a move is on the cards.

A Noranda official later denied the group was discussing with Minorco the possible purchase of its stake.

Minorco holds more than 60 million Cons Gold shares, far in excess of the number which have changed hands so far today.

Losses
Lonrho reversed yesterday's losses to stand 23p higher at 377 on rumours Bond Corp was adding to its 15 per cent stake in the company. It was the second most active issue with 23.7 million shares traded and dealers noted a number of two million share blocks going through.

Analysts said it was most likely bond was buying and this was reviving speculation that a bid for Lonrho was on the cards.

They thought bond would try to raise its stake to around 25 per cent and then hold onto it. Bond's current seven billion Australian dollars of debt is thought likely to restrain it from launching a full bid for some time.

Row over arms sales to Jordan hits West German government

BONN, Oct. 26, (Reuters): A senior member of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition vowed today to fight plans to sell Tornados fighters to Jordan, saying they violated West German laws banning arms sales to areas of conflict.

Government sources said opposition within the ruling three-party coalition could scuttle the financing for the sale of the aircraft, made by a British-West German-Jordanian consortium.

Otto Lambsdorff, head of the liberal junior partners in Kohl's centre-right cabinet, said his Free Democrats (FDP) opposed a government plan to have Federal Credit Agency KfW guarantee the aircraft sale.

Delivery

"Economic backing for such a delivery to a country at war with Israel is totally unacceptable to the FDP," Lambsdorff told reporters.

Britain, West Germany and Italy share profits from any sale of Tornados.

Britain announced in March it would deliver Tornados to Jordan for about £400 million (\$675 million). The number of fighters was unspecified but reports put it at eight.

Lambsdorff said the govern-

ment had told Britain it could not issue outright state export credits for the Tornados sale to Jordan.

Instead, Bonn sought to satisfy the British by having KfW assume the interest-rate risk on a 350-million-mark (\$195-million) bank credit for the sale, KfW sources said. KfW would also have contributed 48 million marks (\$27 million) to help Jordan finance the purchase.

The credit package was worked out by private West German banks, which demanded government guarantees for the loan.

A selling partner in the Tornados consortium must consult the other two on a deal, but no member country has a right of veto.

Sales

Lambsdorff conceded that Bonn could not stop the sale but said he found arms sales to Jordan unacceptable. His party urged Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher and Economics Minister Martin Bangemann, both FDP members, to block the deal.

West Germany, the world's fifth biggest weapons exporter, outlawed arms sales to areas of tension under its postwar con-

stitution. Previous weapon deals with Arab countries have been condemned by Israel, which says Bonn has a special duty to back Israel because of the Nazi extermination of Jews.

Officials in the foreign and trade ministries were preparing a note for the cabinet to turn down the KfW credit, government sources said.

KfW, 80 per cent owned by the Bonn government and 20 per cent by the 11 federal states, must decide on the Tornados credit by November 8.

Obstacles

During an emergency debate in parliament, Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said he saw no legal obstacles to the credit.

But he said that as chairman of the KfW board he was willing to discuss the issue again after Bangemann signalled his opposition to the project.

In Frankfurt, bank officials said the banks involved were waiting for a signal from Bonn to decide on the package.

"If the government says 'no' to the credit, I can't imagine that West German banks would go ahead and give Jordan money for the Tornados," said one expert in a major bank.

Greenspan concerned about rising corporate debt

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan has expressed concern about the risk to lenders and the US economy from the rising use of debt to finance leveraged buyouts and corporate takeovers.

In an October 17 letter to Senate Banking Committee member James Sasser, released today, Greenspan said the Fed did not yet fully understand why the use of debt financing had mushroomed in the current decade.

Proposal

"But I think it's widely recognised that the tax system provides some incentives toward leverage, and it would be appropriate for the Congress to continue looking at that problem," he said.

The Central Bank chairman's letter predated the \$17-billion

buyout proposal by the top managers of RJR Nabisco Inc., a price later topped by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts' \$20-billion offer for the tobacco conglomerate, the biggest ever takeover bid.

In a leveraged buyout, a small group of investors uses a small amount of its own money and much more in borrowed funds to buy all of a company's stock, taking the firm private. They peel off some assets, sell them and tap the remaining cash flow to pay off the debt. The deals offer the possibility of spectacular rewards at a time many managers regard their stock as undervalued.

Activities

The Fed, in its supervisory capacity, has looked closely at the lending activities of individual banks, Greenspan said.

It has cautioned the banking industry generally to be certain of the soundness of leveraged buyout loans, he added. Some banking analysts worry that a recession could batter the recently privatised debt-laden firms and leave many banks saddled with more bad loans.

Also in his letter, sent in response to questions posed by the banking committee, Greenspan said the drop in the dollar since 1985 has set in motion forces that should continue to help the US trade performance for some time to come.

Process

Conventional forecasting models suggest that, if exchange rates were to remain unchanged, the US current account might begin to deteriorate after 1990, Greenspan said. But he said these models do not capture all aspects

of the process of external adjustment, such as increases in US productive capacity and actions to reduce the federal budget deficit.

"In short, we simply do not know enough to predict when, if ever, the ongoing improvement in our current account will be reversed, even at current exchange rates," Greenspan said.

Reserves

He said he opposed any suggestion that the Fed should bail out the US savings and loan industry by paying interest on bank reserves and transferring the proceeds to the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp (FSLIC).

Greenspan said the Fed was prepared to work with the FSLIC and Congress in evaluating ways to help the thrift industry.

Gulf ministers discuss protectionist measures

RIYADH, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Finance ministers of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) met in Riyadh today to discuss trade with the European Economic Community (EEC) and measures to aid local industries.

In an October 17 letter to Senate Banking Committee member James Sasser, released today, Greenspan said the Fed did not yet fully understand why the use of debt financing had mushroomed in the current decade.

Talks

The GCC is involved in complex talks with the EEC on a trade agreement and officials said the six Gulf ministers would discuss the progress of negotiations.

Indonesian exports reach \$9.40b

JAKARTA, Oct. 26, (OPECNA): During the first six months of this year, Indonesia's export revenues reached more than \$9.40 billion with oil and gas sales accounting for 4.30 billion of the total, according to figures released by the Central Bureau for Statistics.

Crude exports totalled \$2.40 billion during the first half of the year, while natural gas sales netted \$1.40 billion and products about \$512 million.

Saudi share market surges

RIYADH, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's fledgling share market is in the midst of a mini-boom, which has seen prices of selected stocks register double-digit growth in the past 10 weeks.

"The market is really jumping now," said one local player. "Money can be made."

Shares of the giant SABIC petrochemical company, one of the market leaders, were trading at 103 riyals (\$27) on August 4. Ten weeks later they were selling at 173 riyals (\$46).

Upturn
And in October, the Saudi share index broke the 80 point barrier for the first time in at least a year, touching 86.30 in the week ended October 20 from 79.89 at the end of last month.

Analysts say there are several reasons for the market's upturn.

First is the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran which became operative on August 20, ending nearly eight years of fighting.

"There is growing optimism that local Gulf economies, including ours will benefit from the peace between Iraq and Iran," said one banker. "The reconstruction of both Iraq and Iran means large business opportunities."

A second reason for the boom in Saudi stocks is the fact that local investors are bringing their funds home.

Confidence

"Last year's October crash in stock prices made many Saudis realise that foreign investment is risky," said another banker. "Although it's difficult to say how much capital has been return-

ed, it does seem as if the flight of capital out of Saudi Arabia has been stemmed," he added.

A third factor has been a resurgence of confidence in the Saudi economy.

Sectors including petrochemicals and banking are showing strong growth. Profits and sales at SABIC are soaring while profits at some banks have nearly doubled.

Cement companies have also rebounded thanks to protective tariffs enacted by the government earlier this year.

Interest in the market has also remained strong due to four share flotations this year after a hiatus of more than 30 months.

The Taiba Company for Real Estate and Development led the way in March with a 300 million riyals (\$79 million) issue.

Spain and Iran to co-operate in reconstruction

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Oct. 26, (AP): Spain and Iran have agreed to co-operate in various post-war reconstruction projects, including expansion of power plants and building a cement factory.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said Spain's visiting Industry and Energy Minister Claudio Aranzadi and Iranian Energy Minister Bijan Namdar Angeneh agreed at a meeting yesterday to co-operate in "rebuilding two power plants." It did not say where these plants were located.

But it said the two men also discussed purchase from Spain of spare parts needed for the plants. One, IRNA said, is steam-powered and the other operates on gas. It did not

elaborate. Another dispatch by IRNA, which is monitored in Nicosia, said that also yesterday, the first day of Aranzadi's visit to Tehran, the Spanish official and Iranian Industry Minister Gholamreza Shafiee agreed on co-operation in the construction of a cement factory in the southern Hormuzgan province with a capacity of 3,000 tons.

Shafiee was quoted as saying because Spain had not been a party to various sanctions imposed on Iran after the rise of the Islamic revolution to power in 1979 Tehran-Madrid relations would improve. IRNA did not provide a direct quote from Shafiee.

He said Tehran, whose econ-

omy has been devastated by the eight-year war with Iraq, has given priority in its reconstruction drive to "non-metal" industries, such as cement, glass, paper and chemical projects.

A United Nations-sponsored ceasefire took hold along the Iran-Iraq war front on Aug 20.

IRNA quoted Aranzadi as saying he hoped Spain would also provide technological expertise for manufacturing pharmaceutical products, especially antibiotics. He did not elaborate.

IRNA said 60 Spanish companies were operating in Iran now and that the number could rise if other Spanish firms "offer more facilities in terms of price and payment."

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Dear Junior Readers,

As if we have not suffered enough with dust storms, the white insect invasion and the recent sticky weather, it looks like we should be getting ourselves ready for the possible arrival of swarms of locusts. Nothing is done by halves in the Gulf, is it?

I suppose it would be quite a sight—huge black clouds of the things sweeping across the country, chomping their way through the plant life as they go. But for countries which depend on the food they can grow, it must be the most awful thing to see all their past hard work and future supplies of vegetables and cereals destroyed so fast and so completely. At least here there is not that worry, because so little is grown anyway. All the same, the locusts would not be particularly welcome, although I hear that some people consider them a great delicacy and actually eat them!

So, you never know, but if they do come, we could start seeing a whole range of exciting new dishes at the local restaurants: locust kebabs, locustburgers, locust ice-cream sundae (with chocolate sauce of course) ... the possibilities are endless! I for one will not be tasting any of the specialities—they will be covered in insecticide poison and besides, I have just decided to become a vegetarian!

Auntie Jayne

Retold by Stephen Corrin

ONCE upon a time there lived a poor old widow and her two daughters in a little cottage by the meadow.

She had a small farm with some pigs, a cow called Daisy, a sheep called Molly, seven fine-looking hens, and a magnificent rooster called Chanticleer. He really was a grand-looking bird, with a comb as red as flaming fire, a coal-black beak and feathers glowing bright with many colours. How fine he looked as he strutted proud and upright in the farmyard.

No other rooster in the land could crow as loudly or as beautifully as Chanticleer, and the old widow and her two daughters were very proud of him.

One night Chanticleer had a strange dream and it worried him so much that he woke up to tell her all about it.

'I've had a really nasty dream, my dear,' he said. 'I was walking up and down the yard when I saw a strange animal come racing towards me. It was brownish-reddish colour, but it had a kind of black fur above its eyes and its long bushy tail was jet-black too. Its eyes gleamed like coals of fire and just as it was about to seize me in

Chanticleer and Pertelotte

its jaws I woke up.'

'Shame on you, husband,' cried Pertelotte. 'Fancy a great strong rooster like you being afraid of dreams. Dreams don't mean a thing.' And she closed her eyes and went back to sleep again. Chanticleer felt a wee bit ashamed, but though he didn't bother Pertelotte any more he feared secretly that his dream might come true.

The next morning Chanticleer was strutting proudly round the farmyard followed by Pertelotte and the six hens. But not very far away in a bed of cabbages, a big red fox lay in hiding, waiting to pounce upon Chanticleer. Chanticleer had strutted on ahead of the hens and suddenly he caught a glimpse of the fox's face. It reminded him of the animal he had seen in his dream and he was just about to run away when the sly fox called out:

'Good morning, Sir Chanticleer, don't run away. I am your friend and I was the friend of your father before you. Whenever I hear your fine voice crowing in the morning I remember your father,

who had a wonderful voice like yours. He often used to sing to me when I asked him to, for I did admire his voice. You could hear it for miles around, over hill and dale, just like yours. Won't you please sing for me, just this once? Just like your dear father did, with your eyes tightly closed, standing on your tip-toes and your neck stretched right out. Please sing for me, just this once, Sir Chanticleer.'

You may well imagine Chanticleer was delighted to hear all these nice remarks about his voice, for he was secretly very proud of it and thought there was no other rooster to compare with him. So for the moment he forgot all about his bad dream and his fear of the fox, and he said:

'Yes, Mr Fox, I will sing for you.'

And so standing high upon his toes, and stretching his neck right out, and closing his eyes tight, and opening his coal-black beak, he began to sing with all his might: 'Cock-a-doodle-doo!'

At that instant the sly fox leapt up, grabbed him by his neck, flung him over his back and raced off into

the woods.

When Pertelotte saw that her beloved Chanticleer had disappeared she started cackling at the top of her voice and running this way and that in great excitement. And all the other hens started to do likewise. And when the old widow and her two daughters heard all the noise in the farmyard they too came running out. And they all started running after Mr Fox, whom they could see galloping off in the distance with Chanticleer flung over his back. Soon they were joined by the ducks and geese from the pond and all the bees from the bee-hives, and by Talbot and Shaggy, the two collie-dogs belonging to Farmer Giles, the next door neighbour, and by Farmer Giles himself. And his two farm hands, Jenkins and Humphrey, joined in the chase, shouting fearful cries and waving long sticks in the air.

And when Chanticleer saw all the great crowd that was chasing Mr Fox, he took courage and said to Mr Fox:

'I say, Mr Fox, why don't you turn round, and tell all those silly people

not to be so stupid. Just turn round and tell them that you mean to eat me up no matter what they do or say. Tell them you'll soon be safe in your lair and that they'll never be able to catch you.' When Mr Fox heard this he said:

'How right you are, Sir Chanticleer. I shall certainly do so.'

But the moment he opened his mouth the rooster jerked himself away and flew high up into the nearest tree.

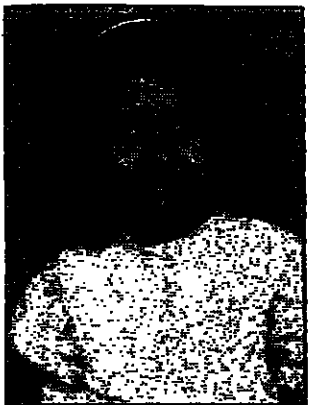
And Mr Fox, seeing that he made a great mistake in opening his mouth, called out to Chanticleer:

'Come down, my friend. I'm sorry I scared you. I must have grabbed you too hard when I caught hold of you. Come down again, I won't hurt you this time.'

But Chanticleer was not to be fooled again. And turning to Mr Fox he said: 'Oh no, Mr Fox, you'll never get me again. You'll never catch me gain with my eyes shut.' And then he flew down and ran back to Pertelotte and the old widow. And everybody was very happy to have him back safe and sound once more.



Happy Birthday



Afrab Ghazali will celebrate her seventh birthday on 29th October. Best wishes and lots of love, Afrab, from your parents, relatives and friends.

Jenifar Pinto celebrates her birthday on 28th October. Best wishes and love, Jenifar, from family and friends.

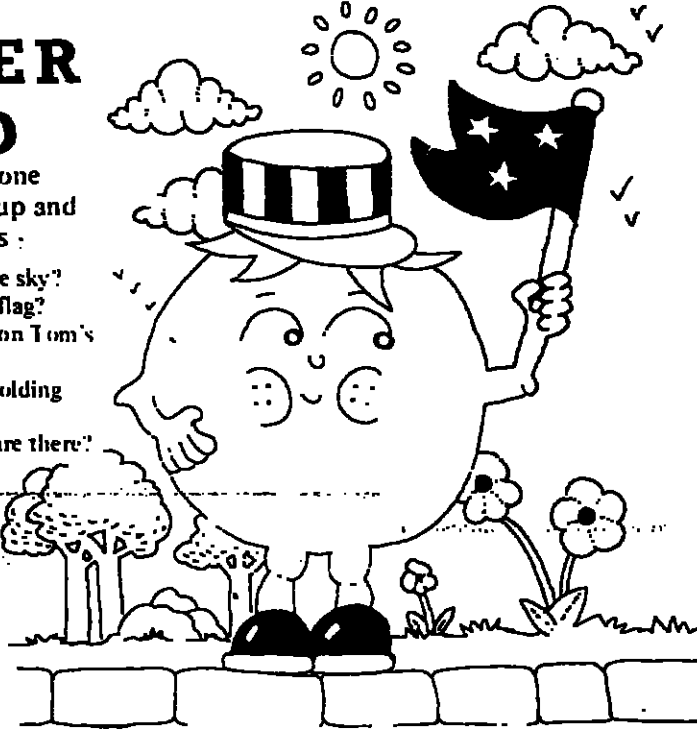
Solution to Tuesday's general knowledge quiz:

1. Source.
2. A Londoner. A person born within hearing of Bow Bells.
3. Tweedledum.
4. The Irish Sea.
5. Goose.
6. The Little Mermaid. From a fairy-tale by Hans Christian Andersen.
7. Prague. Its centre of city. Prague was ruled by the Duke of Bohemia in the 10th Century—he was known as King Wenceslaus I or 'Good King Wenceslaus'.
8. Thumb or finger. Bone between knuckle and first joint. Not to be confused with metatarsal, relating to bones between tarsus and toes.
9. Columbine.
10. William Blake.
11. Three. The three sisters.
12. Primrose.
13. In Milan, Italy. On the site of the Church of Santa Maria Della Scala.
14. Kew-diki.
15. Chromium. Stainless steel contains at least 10 per cent chromium. Ordinary stainless steel such as knives and forks contain 18 per cent chromium and 8 per cent nickel.
16. River Zambesi. David Livingstone first discovered and described the falls in 1855.
17. Four.
18. In the body (more correctly, in the pancreas).

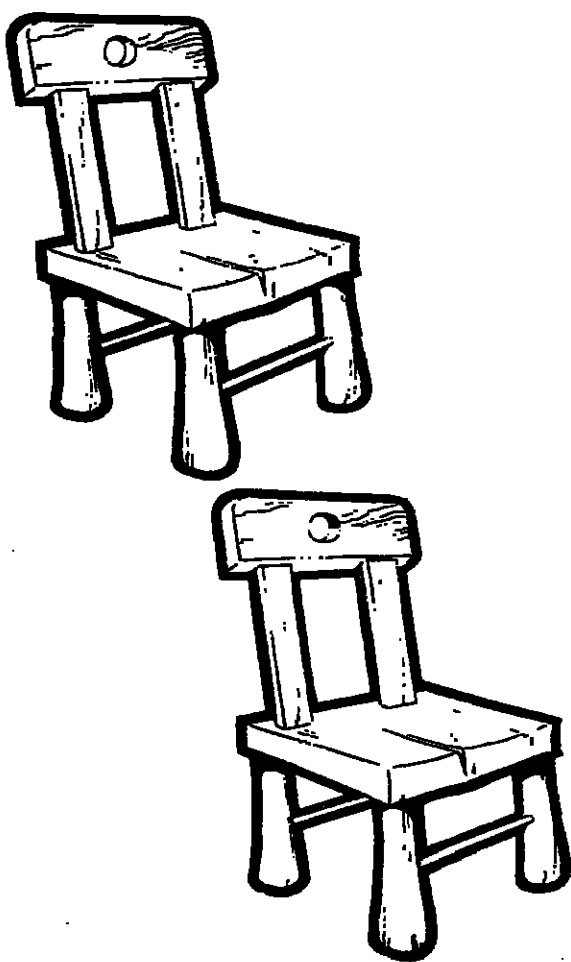
MASTER MIND

Study the picture for one minute, then cover it up and answer these questions:

1. How many clouds in the sky?
2. How many stars on the flag?
3. How many white stripes on Tom's hat?
4. In which hand is Tom holding the flag?
5. How many rays of sun are there?



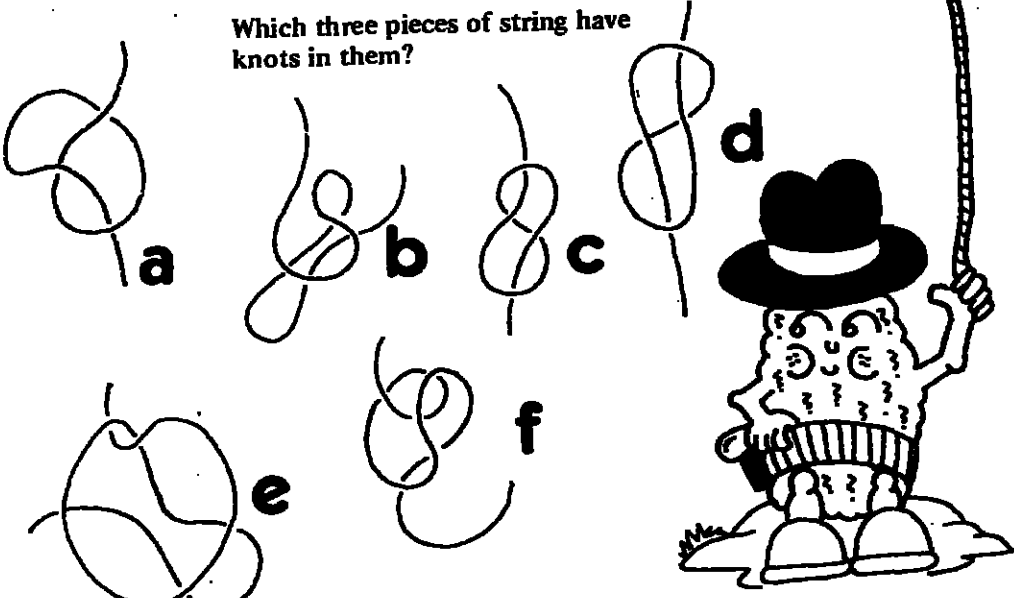
FIND FIVE DIFFERENCES



WHAT DOES AN INSECT WEAR IN BED?
A GNAT-GOWN

All tied up!

Which three pieces of string have knots in them?



Truly amazing!

Ice-cream made from frozen milk, was on sale in Peking during Marco Polo's visit.

When a man was being hanged in Mississippi in 1894 the noose came undone and the prisoner fell to the ground. He was then set free, and since his innocence was later established he was granted \$5,000.

A New Haven, Connecticut, man lived to the age of 83 after surviving 28 narrow escapes from death.

The greatest live weight for a turkey is 75 lbs reported in 1973 for a turkey reared in Salt Lake City.

A wren can sing 130 different notes in seven seconds.

At the equinoxes in March and September there is an equal number of hours of light and darkness everywhere on the earth.

In 1685 the average wage of an English labourer was four shillings (20 p) per week.

The size of newly-born kangaroo is 2.5 cm.

'School' comes from the Greek word skhole which means 'leisure'.

Baobab trees found in the tropics, have trunks 30 feet in diameter.

The soles of a cat's paws will perspire if it hears a dog barking.

BIRTHDAY PARTY

HAPPY	AMUSE
KISS	BEER
LAUGH	BUFFET
LUNCH	CHEESE
MUSIC	CHIPS
NAPKINS	COASTERS
PARTY	DANCE
PLAN	DINNER
PUNCH	DISHES
RELATIVES	DIVERSION
RELAX	DOORBELL
SALADS	DRINKS
SNACKS	FEAST
STEREO	FONDUE
TABLE	FOOD
TOWELS	GAMES
TRAY	GRILL
WELCOME	GUESTS

Clue: Take what comes (3,4 letters)



Polar Bear
The secret of the polar bear
Is that he wears long underwear.



What did the little boy say when he saw a crate of milk bottles in the country?
'Look! I've found a cow's nest.'

What goes 'Woof-tick, woof-tick'?
A watch-dog.

What did the judge say when he had finished work?
'It's been a trying day.'

What is horse sense?
Just stable thinking.

Why couldn't anyone find the famous composer?
Because he was Haydn.

What is the study of shopping called?
Buy-ology.

A little boy sat fishing on the street corner. An old lady took pity on him and gave him 10 p.
'How many have you caught?' she asked kindly.
'You're the sixth one today,' replied the boy.

When are eyes not eyes?
When the wind makes them water.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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KUWAIT City, behind Souk Al Kabir, in front of the PIA Office. Accommodation in a furnished flat with tele, for 2 Pakistani bachelors. Tele. 2460424 - 6 Off. 2427629. res (AT5-44538-3)

NUGRA, Khaldoun Street. One independent room furnished with water and electricity and tele. facilities for 1 or two bachelors. Rent KD80. Tele. Mr Oberoi, 4740801, off. 2644645, res. (AT6-44546-3)

FAHAHEEL, near the cinema hall. Accommodation for a bachelor. Tele. 3928512 (AT4-44523-3)

SALWA, House-196, Block-7, one room with water, electricity and kitchen. For a family or bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 102, 34. Rent KD50. Tele. 5611243. (AT4-44525-3)

HAWALLI, near Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital, a spacious room for a couple, 2 Indian bachelors or working ladies, to share with a Mangalorean family. Rent KD70. tele. Mr T. D'Souza, 2430891; from 8 am to 12.30 pm, 4-7.30 pm. (AT6-44505-1)

NUGRA, near Farabi School, Moosa Bin Nasir Street. One room with water and electricity, for a small family, working girls or 2 bachelors, Muslims, to share with a Pakistani family. Tele. 2408053, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm; 2414728, 4.30 - 8.30 pm. (AT5-44547-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq, behind Firdous Cinema, Villa No. 142. Single room with kitchen and bathroom for a small family or working girls. Tele. 2404285. (AT5-44529-2)

RIQUIE, sharing accommodation in a 2-bedroom CAC flat for a couple or bachelor, Indian/ Filipino only. Tele. Mr Anand, 2445599, off. Mr Ashok, 4884158. (AT6-44533-2)

KUWAIT CITY, near the Sheraton Hotel, one spacious room for bachelor(s). Rent includes water and electricity. Tele. 2414490. (AT6-44473-2)

KUWAIT City, Sharq, near the Finger Prints Office. One room for 3 bachelors. Rent KD90. Tele. 2401639. (AT6-44573-2)

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HONDA Civic, 1984, automatic, red, 51,000 kms., with 2 doors, in excellent condition. KD250 or by instalments. Tele. 5653852. (AT6-44575-3)

NISSAN Stanza '84, automatic, with AC, sunroof, 55,000 kms. KD950 or KD32 by instalments. Tele. 9035881. (AT6-44576-3)

OLDSMOBILE Omega, 1981, registered up to 24.4.1989, white, with 2 doors in excellent condition. Best offers. Tele. 4873939, after 4pm. (AT5-44535-2)

TOYOTA Celica '81 model, automatic, red with AC, in good condition. Price KD550. Tele. 5653952. (AT4-44498-3)

BUICK Park Avenue, 1984, in excellent condition. Tele. 5635517, 2-10 pm. (AT5-44532-3)

OLDSMOBILE Cutlass Supreme: 1984, 76,000 kms, good tyres, excellent mechanical condition. KD1,700 ono. Tele. Mr Greg - 2452880 off. 8.15 am - 1 pm, 3.15 - 6 pm, 5330506 res. (AT4-44522-3)

COLT Turbo, black, 29,000 kms, electric windows, sunroof. One lady owner. Reluctant sale. KD1,950: ono. Tele. 2421537, 3900176. (AT4-44520-3)

MINISUBISHI Galant, 1986, automatic, 65,000 kms, maintained at company's garage, single owner in excellent condition. KD1700, ono. Tele. 5611597, 2-6 pm. (AT5-TM-3)

AUSTIN Montego, 1987, manual, golden colour with AC, power steering. Tele. 5334368, 3-5 pm, 10-12 pm. (AT5-44542-3)

Miscellaneous

TOSHIBA VCR Betamax and 17 cassettes, Sharp radio and cassette, National 3-in-one, super 8mm camera, new, and book case for sale. Tele. Nadim, 2616815. (AT4-44527-3)

KITCHEN units and some household items for sale. Tele. 5380004. (AT5-44531-3)

GLASS dining-table with 8 chairs and Sankel organ for sale. Tele. 5621886. (AT6-44552-2)

Furniture

SOFASET (5 seater), dining table (glass top) with six chairs, two single beds with mattresses and side tables, mirrors etc. For immediate sale. Tele. 4732567, 4832159. (AT5-44544-2)

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COMPUTER printer Epson FX80 for sale. Tele. 2544693. (AT4-44526-3)

PETS

GOOD house-trained female English Sheepdog, Italian professional electronic organ, sideboard, dining-table, bicycle, sports and some indoor games for sale. Tele. 2446241, after 1.30 pm. (AT6-44549-3)

LOST

PASSPORT No. E 243367 in the name of Mohammed Siraj Ullah, Bangladeshi, lost in Sabhan. Finder please tele. 4747545/6 or inform the Bangladesh embassy. (AT6-44562-2)

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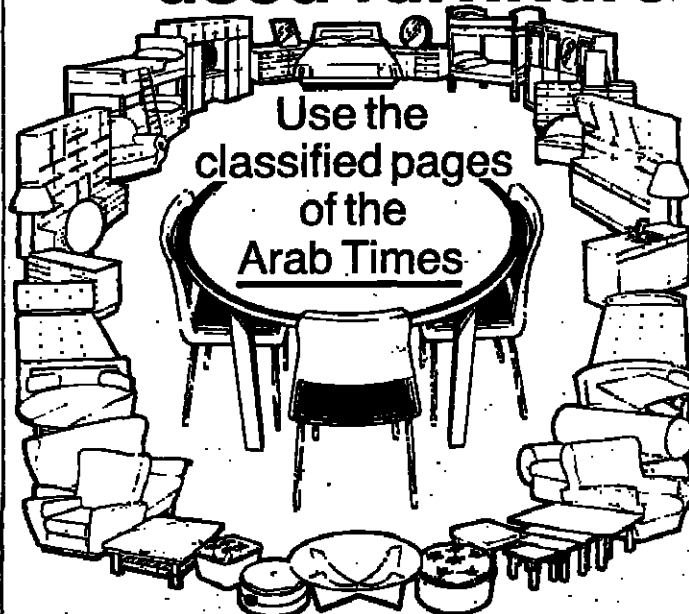
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AVAILABLE from Fahaheel to Shuwaikh or the City and return. Office timings: 8 am - 7 pm. Tele. Rocha, 2415704, 2447804. (AT6-44549-3)

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SPORTS

Sethi takes HCC past YMCA

HYDERABAD Cricket Club (HCC) beat YMCA on a better run rate in the opening round match in the Goodyear Cricket Tournament at the Ahmadi Governorate ground on Sunday.

Set to score 159 for victory, after YMCA had scored 158 for 29 overs, HCC equalled the scores in the 27th over for the loss of six wickets before the umpires stopped the game due to darkness. HCC were declared winners on a better run-rate at this stage.

YMCA had started their innings losing Sandeep Ariya, who had to retire hurt, early on. It wasn't until Hafeez and Shehzad got together that runs started coming.

Collapse

Half went on to become the top scorer with 50 while Shehzad hit 47. Masood took five wickets for 18 runs on 15 balls. James and Rommie got one wicket each while Rommie chipped in with three stumpings.

HCC opened their innings through Remy and Masood (15) with the latter first to go with the score at 37. This was the beginning of the collapse as four more wickets fell by the time the score was 59.

Sethi and James not only arrested the rot but also took HCC to a winning position. James was out after hitting 31 with the score at 128. Sethi remained unbeaten on 64 when the scores were equalled.

Ambrose took three wickets for 22.

Prince beat Lanka Lions and Skylark

PRINCE Cricket Club scored two victories this week. In the first game they scored a four-wicket victory over Skylark on Friday and then overcame Lanka Lions by 23 runs in a Brud Trophy match at the GCL ground on Sunday.

In the first match, Skylark batted first and managed to score only 116 runs in 28 overs. Victor and Walter scored 20 runs each while Rishi hit 18. Shehzad was the main wicket-taker with five for 21 in five overs. Mujahid took three wickets while Naseem and Ishfaq one each.

Batted

Prince faced no difficulty in getting the runs required with Shahbaz hammering 58 and Mujahid 22.

In the second match, Prince batted first but were all out for 124 with Naseem scoring 39 and Asad Malik 21. For Lions, Damik took five wickets and Subject, Upul, Alwis and Sam one each.

Lions fared no better and were all out for 101. Aslam and Shahbaz took three wickets each while the other four were shared by Naseem and Asad Malik.

For Lions, Damik scored 31 and Chola 20.

KIFCO score easy victory

KIFCO beat Bright Stars by five wickets in a K.C.F. Trophy match at the KCL ground on Sunday.

Bright Stars opted to bat after KIFCO's Aqueel Ashraf lost the toss. Bright Stars' skipper and one of their most consistent batsmen, Saleem, was bowled for a duck by Mansoor on the third ball of the innings.

Asghar and Ajmal put on 94 runs for the fourth wicket before the latter was bowled by Rashid for 55.

The other batsmen failed to cope with the KIFCO bowling and the whole team were out for 128 in the 24th over. Riffat took four wickets for 27 while Aqueel got three for 12 and Rashid two for 17.

KIFCO got the required runs by the 22nd over for the loss of five wickets. Arshad was the top scorer with 52 while Tariq hit 40. Arshad hit a six and eight fours while Tariq slammed three boundaries.

Pakistan arrive in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Bangladesh, Oct. 26, (AP): A 16-member Pakistani team led by Javed Miandad arrived in Dhaka yesterday for the 4-nation Asia Cricket Cup tournament beginning tomorrow.

"We are a balanced team, and we want to present good cricket in Bangladesh," Miandad said in an arrival statement. He said he was confident to win the trophy.

Clash

Besides host Bangladesh, three nations — Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka — will clash for the trophy.

Pakistan will play their opening match against Sri Lanka in Dhaka tomorrow.

The final will be played on Nov. 4.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA DEFEAT TOURISTS

W. Indies lose first tour game

PERTH, Australia, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Western Australia's James Brayshaw struck a boundary off the final ball to defeat West Indies by four wickets in a thrilling finish to the opening match of their Australian tour today.

Western Australia hit 144 for six wickets in reply to the West Indies total of 143 for six.

Doomed

The home side, despite some wayward bowling by the West Indies pace attack, appeared doomed to defeat when they needed to score 20 in the final two overs of the 30-over game.

The task became even harder when big-hitting Chris Matthews was run out, leaving wicketkeeper Tim Zoehrer and the 21-year-old Brayshaw to score 12 in the final over from fast bowler Patrick Patterson.

Brayshaw sliced the first ball for four and then manufactured two byes and a leg bye from the next three balls.

Zoehrer clipped the fifth delivery off his pads for one before Brayshaw slashed at the

the final ball to send it past point to the boundary fence. Brayshaw finished with 21 and Zoehrer three.

Western Australia recovered well from losing Mike Veletta and Tom Moody in the first over from Patterson. Geoff Marsh and captain Graeme Wood steadied the innings with a third wicket partnership of 81 before Wood was lbw to medium-pace Carl Hooper for 41.

Hooper, who earlier scored a scintillating 45, finished with two for 31 off his six overs, his second wicket coming from a superb return catch to dismiss Wayne Andrews for 18.

However, the West Indian pace attack was unusually wayward, bowling 10 wides and five no balls. Malcolm Marshall, playing his first international since the tour of England, did not take a wicket but gave away four wides and a no-ball.

The match, originally a day/night game, was reduced to 30 overs from the scheduled 50 because of a power strike. Tour captain Viv Richards, still suffer-

ing an ankle injury was left out of the side.

West Indies, shaken by pace bowler Terry Alderman's opening spell after they were put into bat, were rescued by opener Gordon Greenidge, captain for the day, and Hooper who dominated a third-wicket partnership of 73.

Alderman, back in Test contention after serving a three-year suspension for touring South Africa, sent back Desmond Haynes for nought with the score on one thanks to a simple catch by wicketkeeper Tim Zoehrer.

Seven runs later Richie Richardson departed, also for a duck, after an ugly drive gave Geoff Marsh a catch in the slips off Alderman.

However, Greenidge steadied the innings while Hooper made merry, hitting five fours and two sixes. Greenidge was finally dismissed by paceman Ken MacLeay for 35.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES
G. Greenidge b MacLeay 35
D. Haynes c Zoehrer b Alderman .. 0
R. Richardson c Marsh b Alderman .. 0

C. Hooper b Moody 45
K. Arthurton c Marsh b MacLeay .. 7
J. Dejon not out 25
M. Marshall b Matthews 8
D. Williams not out 12
Extras (b-1, lb-5, w-4, nb-1) 11
Total (for six wickets) 143
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-8, 3-81, 4-88, 5-97, 6-108

Bowling: Alderman 6-0-20-2, Matally 6-1-21-0 (2w, 1nb), Matthews 6-0-25-1 (1w), MacLeay 6-0-37-2, Moody 6-0-34-1 (1w).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
G. Marsh b Walsh 28
M. Veletta lbw b Patterson 0
T. Zoehrer not out 1
G. Wood lbw b Hooper 41
W. Andrews c and b Hooper 18
J. Brayshaw not out 21
C. Matthews run out 3
T. Zoehrer not out 3

Extras (b-3, lb-11, w-10, nb-5) 29
Total (for six wickets - 30 overs) 144
Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-4, 3-85, 4-95, 5-13, 6-138

Bowling: Patterson 6-1-23-1 (3w, 1nb), Marshall 6-0-20-0 (4w, 1nb), Bishop 6-0-25-0 (2w, 2nb), Walsh 6-0-31-1 (1nb), Hooper 6-0-31-2 (1w).

Result: Western Australia won by four wickets.

Graf cruises past Budarova

BRIGHTON, England, Oct. 26, (AP): Olympic champion Steffi Graf brushed aside the challenge of the experienced Czechoslovak, Iva Budarova, 6-3 6-2 yesterday in her first competitive match since winning an historic gold medal at the Seoul Games.

The 19-year-old West German needed just 45 minutes to advance to the second round of the \$250,000 Midland Group Championships at the Brighton Centre where she is the top seed.

In other first round matches, No. 5 seed Nathalie Tauziat of France flirted with disaster before beating Celine Cohen of Switzerland 2-6 7-5 6-1 while Italy's Sandra Cecchini, seeded seven, downed Britain's Julie Salmon 6-1, 6-4.

In a minor upset, Britain's Claire Wood, who is listed 129 places below Elna Reinach in the world rankings, whipped the 28-ranked, unseeded South African 6-2 6-0.

Australians invited to S. Africa

MELBOURNE, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Victorian Cricket Association president Ray Steele said today he had accepted an invitation to take part in South Africa's cricket centenary celebrations next March.

South African Cricket Association secretary Ali Bacher has invited more than 40 former Australian players and administrators, including Sir Donald Bradman and Australian Cricket Board chairman Malcolm Gray, to celebrate the centenary of cricket in South Africa.

Season

Steele, who managed several Australian cricket tours of England and Pakistan, told reporters: "I would like to go to South Africa to see what they have done."

"I am very sympathetic with cricket officials in South Africa. They are trying hard to get multi-racial cricket and are defying the government in certain areas."

Gray said he had not decided whether to accept the invitation.

"We have plenty on our plate for the coming season and March is a long way off to me," he said. Veteran Australian captain Lindsay Hassett said he had also accepted the invitation. Bradman has not made any public comment.

Former Australian Test cricket captains Bob Simpson and Ian Chappell have rejected their invitations.

Accept

Simpson said his commitments as Australian selector and coach made it impossible to accept while Chappell said his job as a sports commentator would keep him away.

Chappell said he was sympathetic to Bacher's attempt to integrate cricket with opportunities for blacks to play, although he opposed apartheid.

Australia's Labour government opposes sporting links with South Africa but does not seek to prevent individuals travelling there.

Australian players who took part in two rebel cricket tours of South Africa were banned from Test cricket for three years by cricket officials.



The winners with their prizes

Annis takes top prize

ROGER ANNIS won the annual Goodyear International Golf Competition at the Ahmadi grounds earlier this week.

The putting surface, being much softer than usual, enabled many good scores to be returned. As one of the major tournaments held in Kuwait, for a number of years, the competition was stableford.

Shot

Annis (19) won the top prize with 40 points while the runners-up on countback were F. Saleem and Tom Smith with 37 points. The competition for the

longest drive was won by Mohammed Sadeeq.

Nearest to the pin prize was won by Akhter Nawaz with a great tee shot while Annis was second in this event.

The prizes were presented to the winners by Fahd Al Mailem, director of Abdul Hadi Mailem Trading Company — agents for Goodyear International in Kuwait. The competition was organised by Kuldeep Singh Lamba.

Among visitors at this event were Robert Harris King, area manager of Goodyear tyres and Gowland of Goodyear Turkey.

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- Structural Calculations
- Project Management

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McEnroe James Leconte

PARIS, Oct. 26, (Reuters): An almost hysterical French crowd turned the clash between John McEnroe and Henri Leconte into a farce at the \$1.1-million Paris Open Men's Tennis Grand Prix last night.

McEnroe, enjoying the support of French fans, perversely jeering their own countryman, won 7-5 6-1 in a match marred by protests, warnings and countless interruptions by an audience anticipating a gladiatorial contest.

The American, once regarded in Paris and elsewhere as the bad boy of the tennis circuit, is now looked on as a folk hero and the worse he behaves the more the crowd seems to love him.

The fans bayed as if for blood from the start, cheering wildly as McEnroe marched on court and roundly booing Leconte, who for all his attractive attacking style has few true admirers at home.

Clearly depressed by the crowd reaction, third seed Leconte slumped to a 4-0 deficit before rallying bravely to level at 5-5, saving five set points on his own service in doing so.

WGW thrash Super Star

ANJUM BASHIR hammered an unbeaten 72 and Ali took four wickets for 17 to help WGW Cricket Club score a seven-wicket win over Super Star in a Sabah League match at the Safeway ground on Sunday.

Batting first, Super Star managed a paltry 110 in 24 overs for the loss of nine wickets. Ali took four wickets while Anjum got three.

Ilyas was the top scorer for Super Star with 55 while Tahir hit 20.

WGW lost an early wicket but Anjum Bashir and Waris made sure of WGW's victory. Anjum hit seven fours and a six in his 72 while Waris scored 22.

Tahir and Ali took the three wickets to fall.

McEnroe lost that game on a penalty point incurred for a second court violation when he had-temperedly stamped on an advertising hoarding and broke it.

The decision by umpire Bruno Rebeul aroused the fury of a crowd intent on showing where its sympathies lay. During that one game, McEnroe protested no fewer than four line calls.

Broke

The former world number one, for once appearing as an unseeded player, finally broke Leconte's next service game to win the set 7-5.

It was the ninth time the two left-handers have met in competition and it was McEnroe's ninth win. Leconte predictably collapsed in the second set winning just five points in the last five games.

The match was the first to arouse any real passion in the Palais Omnisports at Bercy, though Thierry champion almost gave the home supporters a thrill when he came close to upsetting defending champion

Tim Mayotte of the United States.

Mayotte eventually came back from a set behind and a break down to win 5-7 6-4 6-1.

French honour was saved by qualifier Eric Winogradsky who beat Argentina's Martin Jaita in another three-setter.

Two seeded players, Thomas Muster of Austria (5) and Andrei Chesnokov (8), came through successfully against Anders Jarryd of Sweden and Richard Matsuwski of the United States respectively.

Muster showed some of the form which has brought him four tournament victories this year when he met Jarryd.

Just hours after flying into the French capital, the big-hitting left-hander disposed of the experienced Swede 6-0 6-4.

Muster, 21, who has climbed to his best world ranking of 13th this year, showed tremendous power and control which the Swede simply could not match.

The Austrian put down his remarkable improvement to his victory in July's Boston Grand Prix.

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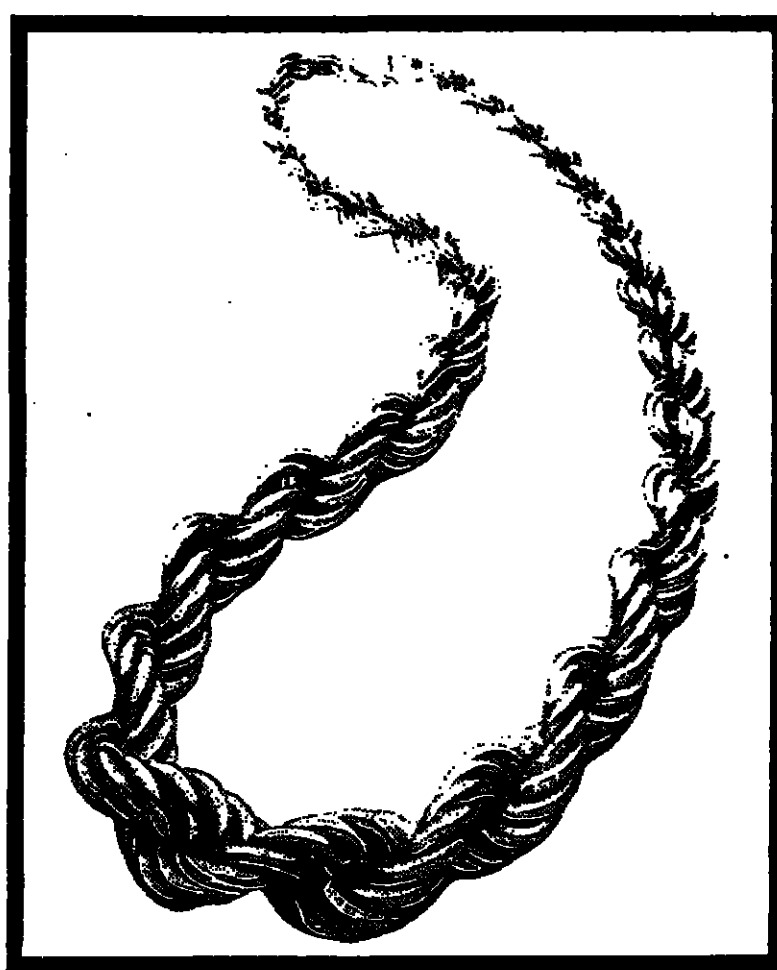
ANNOUNCEMENT
Kuwait Chess Federation

Kuwait Chess Federation would like to announce the opening of the 9th Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah Memorial open Chess Championship, which will be held on 1.11.1988

Registration for male and female competitors will take place at K.C.F. premises in Jabriya, between 6 and 9 pm from 24.10.1988 to 31.10.1988, daily, except Friday.

(Each participant should bring one photo)
Winners will be awarded prizes; K.C.F. reserves the right of rejecting any applicant without giving any reasons, even if he is qualified for the championships.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Tough games

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Second-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria and third-seeded American Stephanie Rehe both escaped upset-minded opponents in the first round of the \$100,000 Indianapolis women's tournament yesterday. Rehe overcame a strong baseline performance from compatriot Beverly Bowes to post a 3-6 6-1 6-4 win, while Maleeva overcame a lapse in concentration to fight off American Ann Henricksson 6-3 6-7 (0-7) 6-3.

Police sports

KUWAIT, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Kuwait will host a two-day general assembly of the Baghdad-based Arab Police Sports Federation on Oct. 29-30. Kuwait police official Colonel Hazza' Salal told a news conference today. He said 13 Arab states including Kuwait had so far confirmed participation in the meeting, which will elect a new executive bureau and discuss championships, seminars and other federation activities.

BOA chairman

LONDON, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Sir Arthur Gold, a leading campaigner against the use of illegal drugs in sport, was elected chairman of the British Olympic Association (BOA) today.

Howard Kendall

NEWCASTLE, England, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Athletic Bilbao soccer manager Howard Kendall has turned down an offer to take over at his home town club, Newcastle United, currently lying bottom of the English First Division.

Dutch striker

BRUSSELS, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Feyenoord Rotterdam have loaned their Dutch striker Tom Kroonmijndijk to Belgian First Division side Cercle Bruges until the end of this season, a Bruges spokesman said today.

Exhibition game

ROME, Oct. 26, (UPI): A group of former Italian Soccer League greats including Paolo Rossi, Marco Tardelli and Poland's Zbigniew Boniek left Rome today for New York where they'll play in a Europe vs the US exhibition match Saturday.

America's Cup

SAN DIEGO, Oct. 26, (Reuters): The America's Cup will land in court again next month, this time with a majority of the three-member America's Cup committee lined up in opposition to the defender's handling of the 27th defence.

Pumas triumph

PERPIGNAN, France, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Argentina's Pumas beat a French Roussillon Selection 24-15 (half-time 11-9) yesterday, their first win in the third match of their rugby union tour of France.

Breeder's Cup

CHICAGO, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Eighty-seven colts and fillies were announced yesterday as nominees for the fifth running of the \$10-million Breeder's Cup series on November 5 at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky.

Himalayan Rally

NEW DELHI, Oct. 26, (AP): Defending champion, Kenjiro Shinzuka of Japan, led midway through the 3rd leg of the 2,994 kilometre Himalayan Car Rally yesterday. Shinzuka was closely followed by Flory Roothaert of Belgium.

Zarak Khan and Harvey eliminated

TORONTO, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Seeded players Zarak Khan of Pakistan and Briton Neil Harvey were ousted in first-round play at the Canadian Open squash championships on Tuesday.

Zarak Khan, the ninth seed, fell to Austin Addaraga of Spain 12-15 15-14 15-9 17-16 in an ill-tempered match marked by a spate of let decisions. The tension-filled final three points took 10 minutes to play.

Seeded players to advance included Australian Chris Dittmar (3) New Zealander Ross Norman (4) and Umar Hyatt Khan of Pakistan (6).

The world's top two players — Pakistan's Jansher Khan and Jahangir Khan — were to make their first appearances in the tournament this evening.

COMPETITION EXPECTED TO BE TOUGH

Stage set for Kuwait Powerboat Race

By Gail Seery

THE 3rd Bi-annual Kuwait Off-shore Powerboat Race starts tomorrow from in front of the Messilah Beach Hotel at 1 pm. Scrutineering will be at Sha'ab slipway from 9 am to 12 noon the same morning, and this will provide an opportunity to see all the boats out of the water.

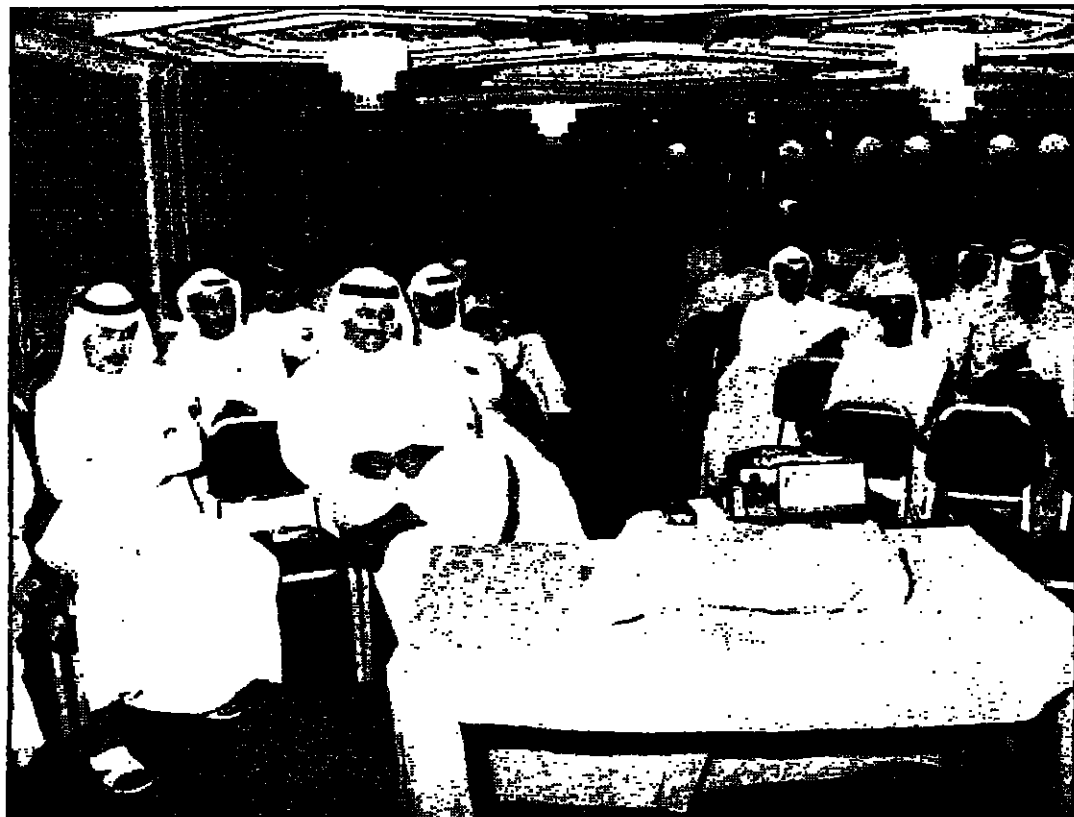
During scrutineering all boats will be checked to ensure that they conform to regulations, and that all safety equipment is present. Once they have passed, they will be taken into the water via the slipway.

Last night drivers were briefed by chief organiser Wael Khoury at the Messilah Beach Hotel. He explained the race regulations and procedure to the participants.

Only thirteen boats have registered for the race, which is the same as last time. There are two fewer boats from Dubai, but more newcomers from Kuwait.

Despite the race being small, the boats are of a very high standard. In June it was only the boats from Dubai, Khalifa Al Qutami's Tigercat and Mishal Al Jarallah's Cougar which could really be called racing boats.

This time most of the boats are catamarans, either Tigercats or Cougars, so a glimpse of a mono-



The drivers and race officials at last night's briefing. (Photo by Raed Outaina)

hull will be something of a rarity. The amount of money spent in upgrading equipment since the last race is astronomical. This race sees new engines and hulls,

and also new safety equipment. Those competitors who have not bought new boats or engines have rebuilt existing equipment.

All boats should be behind the

starting buoys in front of the Messilah Beach Hotel by 12.50 pm. The race will start when the leading boat moves off and gives the start sign. Five minutes

before the start a boat with a yellow flag will approach the waiting competitors from the direction of the start line, and at 1 pm the start boat, displaying a white flag, will take the same route, moving across the approach line and back towards the start.

Competitors must follow the start boat at speeds up to 30 mph, and a minimum of 30 metres behind. When the start boat passes the buoy it will drop the white flag and raise a green flag to signify that the race is under way. Competitors must pass between the buoys at the start and finish, and round the turning points in the correct direction and sequence.

Powered

From Messilah Beach Hotel the boats will head down the coast, turning out to sea near the Gazelle club. The second turn is some way out to sea, in the Messilah area. Turn three takes the competitors in towards Kuwait Bay and a fourth turn brings the boats nearer shore. Then they will race back along the coast, back to turning point 1, where they will make a complete turn and race back for the finish line.

Having learned from last time's mistakes, and from the advice of such seasoned campaigners as Grant Wilson of Cougar, the organisers decided

that this time the boats would not be heading far out to sea. On the other hand, with no less than seven turns to be taken in the correct sequence and direction, the element of navigation will be 'raring'.

The race winner would appear to depend very much on tomorrow's weather conditions. If the sea is calm, it will be the lighter, shorter craft which will have the edge. These include the boats driven by Khaled Bakhit, Hosam Al Sayafe and Khalifa Al Qutami, as well as a 25ft Cougar with 2.4 e.f.i. engines.

Higher waves will give some advantage to Mishal Al Jarallah, Khaled Al Khaled and Sheikh Basel in their 27' catamarans, and of course to the huge yellow Emirates boat, driven by Salem Juma and weighing in at 2 tons. This boat is powered by two 400hp + modified engines, but has not performed well in recent outings. However in rough weather its weight will give it stability.

The only thing that is certain is that the race will be very strongly contested indeed. For those who want to see the start and finish of the race, there will be commentary throughout, and the Messilah Beach Hotel, fast developing a reputation as one of Kuwait's leading sports hotels, has arranged a series of sea events for the same day.

Two-goal Cockerill blasts Spurs

LONDON, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Glenn Cockerill scored two stunning second-half goals yesterday as Southampton poured more pressure on Tottenham manager Terry Venables and his expensive array of stars by beating the north London side 2-1.

Cockerill, only recently returned to the side after suffering a broken jaw, produced a superb volley in the 69th minute to pull Southampton back on terms after a Ray Wallace own goal in the 16th minute had put Tottenham ahead.

Then, with seven minutes left, Cockerill picked up the ball just

inside the Tottenham half and ran on to beat goalkeeper Bobby Mimms from 20 metres.

Tottenham, needing points badly to escape from the basement of the First Division, were left to rue a number of missed chances, two of them by England winger Chris Waddle.

Alan Smith continued his rich vein of scoring at Luton when he volleyed Arsenal ahead in the 13th minute.

But the Gunners' hopes of a sixth successive victory were dashed by Northern Ireland international Kingsley Black when he curled home a free kick

in the 56th minute.

The 1-1 draw lifted Arsenal into third spot in the table.

Results	
English Division One	
Luton	1 Arsenal
Tottenham	1 Southampton
Division Two	
Birmingham	0 Stoke
Crystal P	1 Oxford
Hull	3 Chelsea
Ipswich	0 Portsmouth
Oldham	2 Bournemouth
Plymouth	0 Shrewsbury
Sunderland	2 Blackburn
Watford	1 Barnsley
Division Three	
Bristol City	1 Aldershot
Bury	3 Southend
Chesham	2 Brentford

Lalonde predicts KO victory over Leonard

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, Oct. 26, (AP): Donny Lalonde, the world light heavyweight champion, confidently predicts he'll knock out Sugar Ray Leonard when the two square off on Nov 7 in a ring set up in a parking lot behind Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

According to some boxing insiders, a knockout is the only way the blue-eyed, blond-haired Canadian can retain his World Boxing Council title and add the newly-minted super middleweight crown to his belt collection.

"Ray hasn't really knocked out a lot of guys, but he has outpointed many of the best ... most of the best," said Shaw O'Sullivan, a retired welterweight and former sparring part-

ner of Leonard's in an interview from Toronto.

"Donny will have to knock him out or knock him down a number of times throughout the contest."

Leonard, 32, a three-time world champion who is hoping to become the first boxer to win titles in five different weight divisions, has a record of 34 wins and one loss with 24 knockouts. But the 1976 Olympic gold medalist won't be the only opponent Lalonde must beat in the ring.

"Donny has a couple things he's up against," said O'Sullivan, who won a silver medal in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics after a controversial loss to American Frank Tate.

Betatbatim defeat Varca

BETALBATIM beat Varca Sports Centre 1-0 to lift the BOC Trophy seven-a-side soccer tournament at the Sour grounds on Sunday.

17 teams participated in the tournament which drew a large crowd because of the public holiday on Sunday.

Varca beat Tivim Centre in the semifinals while Betatbatim

booked their passage into the finals at the expense of Starlite. In the finals, the winning goal came through Redo.

Varca fought hard for the equaliser but Betatbatim's strong defense thwarted all their efforts. Donnic of Betatbatim was named Man of the Match for his excellent performance.

La Russa gets manager award

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (AP): Tony La Russa, a clubhouse lawyer who piloted the Oakland Athletics to a club-record 104 victories and the American League pennant, was named the League's Manager of the Year yesterday by the Baseball Writers Association of America.

La Russa, 44, who also won the award in 1983 as manager of the Chicago White Sox, edged Boston manager Joe Morgan by 14 points in balloting by a committee made up of two writers from each League city. La Russa received 103 points, Morgan 89 and 37 for Sparky Anderson.

NHL results

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (Reuters): Results of National Hockey League (NHL) games played yesterday:	
Boston	1 Montreal
Pittsburgh	6 Calgary
Chicago	7 Quebec
Buffalo	7 New Jersey
Toronto	4 New York
Edmonton	5 Los Angeles
Washington	4 Vancouver

Texaco football

PAK Green meet Young Star in the final of the Texaco Football tournament at the Al Nasser Stadium, Hassawi, tomorrow at 4.00 pm. The tournament is being organised by Ahmed Faiz.

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ANNOUNCEMENT
KCSC announces that it has started accepting new applications for all its computer courses commencing 5/11/88.